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Surge seen in opioid poisoning

ER workers sound alarm after treating an influx of patients suffering from symptoms related to the use of opioid drugs PAGE 3

Councillor doubts veracity of bike counter

Coun. Joe Magliocca says he plans to verify the machine's numbers by counting cyclists PAGE 4

'EVERYTHING I DO LEAVES ME COLLAPSING'

GRAPHIC NOVELIST AND PULITZER PRIZE WINNER ART SPIEGELMAN DISCUSSES THE DARK NATURE OF HIS WORK PAGE 29

Smith, eight others join PC Party

Upended. Opposition leader says Prentice and her share values

RYAN TUMILTY
Metro in Edmonton

Premier Jim Prentice and former Wildrose leader Danielle Smith speak to media after a caucus meeting in Edmonton on Wednesday. Prentice's caucus met to discuss a bid by at least half the official Opposition to cross the floor. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wildrose leader Danielle Smith joined a government she has called tired, old and deceitful Wednesday, bringing eight of her MLAs with her and dramatically upending Alberta politics.

After days of rumours, Smith stood side by side with Premier Jim Prentice at a press conference and said she would be leaving the party she has led for five years.

She said she and Prentice see eye-to-eye on many issues and it simply didn't make sense for her to remain in opposition.

"If you are going to be the official opposition leader, you have to really want to take down the government," she said. "I don't want to take down this premier. I want this premier to succeed."

Smith is bringing deputy party leader Rob Anderson and MLAs Gary Bikman, Rod Fox, Jason Hale, Bruce McAllister, Blake Pedersen, Bruce Rowe and Jeff Wilson to the Tories as well.

Prentice said he had long been impressed by the Wildrose party's work ethic and dedication, and it was time to stop the split amongst conservative votes.

"We need all conservatives pulling in the same direction," he said.

He congratulated Smith personally for making the decision.

"You have shown considerable personal courage and determination by making this decision," he said.

Smith said she is worried that without this union, the two parties will split conservative votes.

"I certainly didn't get into politics to elect a Liberal or NDP government," she said.

Five Wildrose MLAs will stay behind: Drew Barnes, Pat Stier, Rick Strankman, Heather Forsyth and Shayne Saskiw.

The floor crossing comes with an agreed set of policy principles, including supporting the basics in education, no sales tax and an end to the province taking on debt.

Smith said those promises represent a win that makes the Wildrose irrelevant.

"We won. We clearly managed to move away from two administrations who were not moving Alberta forward and we have a premier that shares the same conservative values that we do," she said.

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ERs see surge of patients poisoned by opioids

Drug abuse.
Heroin has made a comeback, says medical director

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Emergency-room workers are sounding alarms as they've treated an influx of patients suffering from a "classic triad" of symptoms related to the use of opioid drugs.

"They can be extremely dangerous," said Dr. Mark Yarema, a Calgary-based emergency-room physician and medical director for the Poison and Drug Information Service.

"There's obviously people that legitimately need to be on the medicines, and the best example is probably chronic cancer pain.... The bigger concern we're seeing is the people that are not having a full health assessment and assessment of their addictive potential, their substance-abuse potential and are being prescribed these opioids without, perhaps, appropriate trials of anti-depressants or other non-addictive pain medications."

Yarema said 2014 has marked the "return of heroin," leading some of his colleagues to muse that a switch from Oxycontin, a frequently abused opioid, to a "tamper-resistant" product called OxyNEO has led to the revival of a drug that had largely vanished.

When crushed, OxyNEO becomes a gelatinous substance, making it more difficult than its predecessor to ingest. Yarema fears many Oxycontin users have therefore gone back to their old habits with heroin.

Quoted

"People don't realize what they're taking sometimes until it's too late." Calgary Police Chief Rick Hanson

Calgary-zone hospitals alone had seen 53 heroin cases to the end of October; in 2013 there were 37 total. Similar upswings were being seen elsewhere, with Edmonton hospitals reporting 45 patients to October's end, up from 25 over all of last year.

Opioid cases in general in Calgary were on pace to top last year's count, with 321 cases to the end of October, up from 291 in 2013.

"The main things are decreased level of consciousness to the point where the patient may be comatose, they have a decreased respiratory rate, meaning they don't breathe nearly as quickly, and the pupils ... are extremely small," Yarema said. "That's really the classic triad of symptoms we look for."

The hospital cases appeared to jibe with earlier reports from police of increased drug seizures. In late September, investigators reported 47 heroin cases, up from 25 over the same period in 2013, and 122 illegal opiate seizures, up from 93.

In an interview this week, Calgary Police Chief Rick Hanson deemed the surge in use of certain substances "surprising."

"These drugs are dangerous," he said. "People don't realize what they're taking sometimes until it's too late."

Health officials agree and have urged against classifying the opioid patients as suffering from an "overdose," claiming that there's a risk inherent with taking any non-prescribed or street drug.

Dr. Mark Yarema, a Calgary emergency-room physician and director for the Poison and Drug Information Service, said use of heroin — and opioid drugs in general — has landed more patients in Alberta hospitals this year. METRO FILE

Fentanyl cases

Urine results from four recent Calgary patients, including two attending the same party, have indicated they ingested the toxic painkiller fentanyl. That substance has been deemed 80 times more powerful than morphine and is often branded by dealers as Oxycontin.

- Dr. Yarema said some of the fentanyl patients had also ingested MDMA, commonly known as ecstasy, but it wasn't clear if the two substances had been cut together and supplied to partygoers.

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Renovation

Voyeurism charges laid after camera discovered in electrical outlet

Police have charged a man after he allegedly installed a hidden camera inside a bathroom electrical socket during a contract job.

Ting Kay Chu, 43, of Calgary, who also uses the alias Tohmus Tikay Chu, had a renovation company called The Good Shepherd Group. He is charged with two counts of voyeurism and two counts of failing to comply with a court order.

Police said in a release the camera contained compromising images of two women. It was installed between Aug. 1 and Nov. 14, 2014, when the accused was conducting renovations at the Coventry home. The homeowners called police as soon as the device was located.

Police are asking anyone who has had work done by Chu to come forward, as he was working without a valid business licence. METRO

Stabbing

Police continue to investigate city's 29th homicide

Police continue to investigate a homicide after a man in his 30s was transported to hospital in serious life-threatening condition last week and later died.

The victim has been identified as Ronald Elepano, 34, of Calgary. It's Calgary's 29th homicide of 2014.

At approximately 7:15 a.m. Monday, police responded to the 5300 block of 5 Avenue SE where a man was seen lying on a sidewalk suffering from stab wounds.

Although details are limited police don't believe the incident was a random attack. Detectives believe more than one person was involved; however, the descriptions are vague due to the time of day.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call police at 403-266-1234 or Crime Stoppers anonymously. METRO

Magliocca doubts automated bike counter, Chu wants more of them

Data divide.
Calgary councillors disagree on the best way to keep track of cyclist numbers

ROBSON FLETCHER
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A cyclist rides over a metal-detecting sensor that automatically counts bikes at the Peace Bridge in Calgary. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Unconvinced of the accuracy of a new automated bike counter on Calgary's Peace Bridge, one city councillor says he plans to manually verify the machine's numbers by counting cyclists, personally.

Coun. Joe Magliocca made the assertion Wednesday during a meeting of the city's transportation and transit committee, where cycling co-ordinator Tom Thivener further outlined plans to launch real-time bike counts online in January, based on data from a metal-detecting sensor embedded beneath the concrete at the foot of the bridge.

Magliocca told Thivener he'll "challenge" the automated counts by standing in the same spot one day to count cyclists and compare his data to the machine's.

Coun. Sean Chu has also questioned the accuracy of the city's bike counts but in the opposite way, suggesting Calgary should move away from manual counting in favour of more automated technology that shares data in real-time with the public.

Chu said the Peace Bridge sensor is "great" and he'd like to see similar technology installed in other areas.

"Maybe in the future they will expand from not just the busiest routes but to other routes too, for example, 10th Street (NW)," Chu told Metro.

Jeromy Farkas of the Manning Foundation, who has also called for more open data from the city, told the committee Wednesday that automated counters are "a better use of time" but there is still a place for manual counts.

"We should be using people to manually verify these results and calibrate the technology," he said.

Transportation data manager Ekke Kok previously told Metro that the city is adopting more and more automated counters but manual counts are still important.

Kok said he's "super confident" in the city's data collectors — some of whom have been on the job for decades, manually counting the number of people travelling by car, bus, bicycle, and on foot — particularly when it comes to cyclist and pedestrian counts, as they are easier to enumerate than fast-moving vans or buses carrying large groups of people.

Quoted

"I drive there every day when I go to work and like, right now, maximum, I see two (cyclists). And people say, 'Yeah, well that's anecdotal.' But it's anecdotal over a year and a couple of months. That's pretty scientific."

Coun. Sean Chu, calling for an automated bike counter on 10 Street NW

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Cabbies fielding more dispatch calls on busy weekend nights, new data shows

Taxi for hire. Money to be made in the suburbs, says president of newest cab company

New data suggests fewer taxi rides are being arranged from the curbside, a development that proponents say could signal an upward shift in trust among drivers — and an improvement in customer service.

The report, published late last week, provides the first year-over-year comparison data gathered from GPS and taximetre-tracking software that all licensed cabs in Calgary are required to install.

City livery officials have long said the goal is to use the data to better streamline service and have pledged to crackdown on drivers who ignore their broker's dispatched calls and instead cruise around the city's downtown core in search of a "flagged trip" — a move that violates city bylaws.

A first report in December 2013 indicated the issue was particularly bad in the early-morning hours on Saturday and Sunday as downtown watering holes and clubs shut down.

For example, it showed that in the prior July 91 per cent of trips between 2 and 3 a.m. Sunday were flagged, leaving fewer vehicles willing to pick up people phoning for a ride from the suburbs or non-inner city LRT stations.

But data published now indicates this past July shows that while that time block is still the worst for flagged fares, the overall number shrank to 80 per cent. Every other peak-hour time block also saw a decrease, some to the tune of 10 per cent or more.

"This is the first evidence of the much needed behaviour change to re-establish driver confidence in the dispatch system," said Marcia Andreychuk, a business analyst who tracks the data and reports to the city's Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee.

The report comes as the city hopes holiday season cab service will run a little smoother with the addition of up to 100 of 126 new taxi plates attached to vehicles working the streets by Christmas. On average, four new plates are being approved daily, the city said on Twitter Dec. 5. City council is due to mull more enhanced taxi data in 2015 before deciding whether to green light the release of another 257 plates.

Rupinder Gill, president and driver of Calgary United Cabs, said his fleet of 100 cars makes a habit of serving dispatched calls, even when passenger backlogs build in the downtown core.

"When I come downtown, if I get a flag I'm not going to refuse it, but we try to clean our dispatch first to make the customers believers that if they call a cab they get it," he said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Have you seen an improvement in cab service? New data suggests drivers are sticking closer to their dispatch duties, even when customer demand is at its peak. METRO FILE

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Shannon Burgess. Family of missing woman notified after photos found in park

Family members of a missing Calgary woman were notified Tuesday afternoon after photos resembling Shannon Burgess were found in a local park.

Burgess, 25, was last seen in the early morning hours of Nov. 27 at her home in the 1900 block of Spiller Road SE. Last week, the search was widened to Vancouver and Toronto after police received tips suggesting she may have headed there.

On Tuesday, police searched Fish Creek Park where two photos of a red-headed woman were posted on trees — both of which were found by members of the public. The search continued Wednesday and police were joined by search and rescue.

A family member was told the photos had a resemblance to Burgess, but they could not be linked directly to her because hair and flowers obscured the woman's face. The family has not seen the photos as police are running facial recognition in order to determine whether or not it's a match.

Quoted

"(Police) are looking into it to see who put them up and why. At this point, I'm not concerned. I'm hoping we'll find out it has nothing to do with her."

A member of the Madill family

"(Police) are looking into it to see who put them up and why," Madill said. "At this point, I'm not concerned. I'm hoping we'll find out it has nothing to do with her."

A police source told Metro Wednesday that investigators were still "looking into" the photos, but they had not be conclusively linked to the Burgess case. HELEN PIKE/METRO WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

Charity brings Christmas magic to families in need

Santa and his elves will be hard at work in Calgary on Christmas Eve delivering toys and gifts to families in need. CONTRIBUTED

Spirit of the season. The Magic of Christmas delivers toys and assorted treats, treasures to about 460 homes across Calgary

HELEN PIKE
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Christmas Eve elves will soon fill the streets delivering gifts to families and patients in care facilities across Calgary — not in Santa's sleigh, but in a shiny red bus instead.

The Magic of Christmas is a charity that has been running for 31 years. Every year, volunteers fill buses with toys, treats and treasures to deliver to about 460 homes and about 3,000 patients in care facilities. The day starts at 6 a.m. on Christmas Eve and runs all day.

Simon Tusek has been driving for the Magic of Christmas over the past four years. He's a Calgary Transit employee, but hasn't been a bus operator for nine years. Tusek keeps up his bus operation certificate every year in order to participate in the Magic of Christmas.

"It's very fulfilling for myself and my family," said Tusek. "Very rewarding to see the appreciation and the happiness and the joy and the tears and things like that when you're out there delivering gifts and trees and turkeys to these families."

Allan Reid, president of the Magic of Christmas said donations are still needed. The campaign is running low on gifts for teenagers, moms and dads. He's still accepting donations to Dec. 23.

Cash donations can be made online, while in-person donations can be brought to 6812 Fairmount Dr. SE from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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Kimberly Baird suffers from relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis. She's paralyzed in her left hand and ankle and relies on a wheelchair to get around. Baird says only marijuana provides her any relief. YASMIN JASWAL/FOR METRO

Weed referral service sees 'exploding' demand for drug

Bud business blooms. Patients offered fast-track marijuana prescriptions

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Kimberly Baird says that, at one point, she was swallowing 180 pills a day. The 31-year-old suffers from relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis.

Her left hand and left ankle are both paralyzed; she relies on a wheelchair to get around. The pain comes in waves but it's debilitating when it hits — Metro's first visit to her Inglewood home had to be cancelled last-minute because Baird couldn't get to the door.

Over the phone, her voice quivers; at one point she lost the ability to speak for a full year because the nerves in her neck became paralyzed.

The meds hardly help, and Baird said each set comes with "evil side effects." She becomes "foggy headed" performing simple tasks like washing the dishes. "It was like I was losing my mind. I could hardly function," she said. There's just one pain reliever she actually trusts: marijuana.

"Weed helped me because it heightens my mood, saving me from the harsh reality," Baird said. "As of now, I can't eat unless I smoke marijuana.... It has gained me control of sensory issues.... The pain is so intense I couldn't feel the normal signal your body sends when you have to go to the bathroom."

But physicians willing to prescribe marijuana are virtually non-existent in Alberta, forcing most to venture to B.C. or meet with a willing doctor in another province online. Neither option really proved feasible for Baird, but then she learned of the newly launched Cannapply Medical Services. For a fee of $250, the two-man team, both prescribed medicinal marijuana users themselves, will venture to a prospective patient's home and provide him or her with a full briefing on marijuana — how to get a prescription, how to smoke it, what effects the various strains have and so on.

Positive effect

"Weed helped me because it heightens my mood, saving me from the harsh reality."

Multiple sclerosis sufferer Kimberly Baird on how marijuana has helped her treat her pain

"We're basically holding their hand through the entire process.... Once we go through the education, if they don't have the necessary family records (for marijuana approval), we can definitely refer them to a family doctor that's accepting new patients to do further investigation," said Kyle Wilson, Cannapply's founder.

"Or I've got a group of psychologists on board willing to help with specialty reports for depression, ADHD and high anxiety," added Wilson. He was part of the team that launched Calgary's only marijuana-prescribing clinic, Oasis, earlier this year. When Metro caught up with Oasis in September, 150 patients had been licensed for marijuana use. Since then, Wilson said the number has shot up to 400. He said Cannapply provides patients with a fast-track approach that keeps them from sitting on a wait list or spending hours in the clinic undergoing various screenings to determine whether they're a proper candidate.

Wilson has eyes on quintupling his "compassion crew" to 10 staff in 2015, allowing them to meet what he says is a surging demand. "It's exploding," he said. "We haven't even touched on the marketing we can do.... My personal belief is there's 15,000-20,000 people in Calgary alone that can qualify."

For more information about Cannapply Medical Services, head to cannapply.mdom.mobi.

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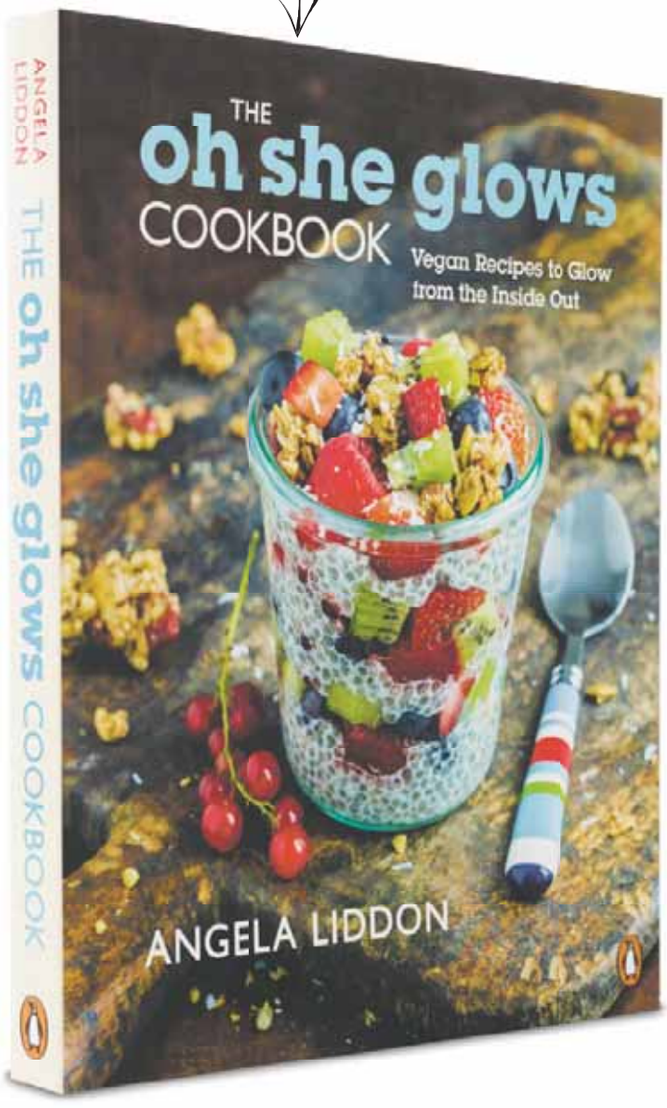
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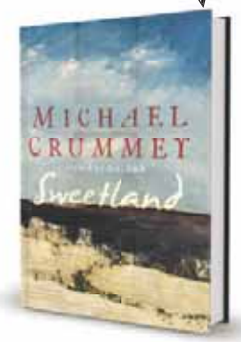

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This sonar image shows the scouring of pier No. 2 of the Bonnybrook Bridge after Calgary's flood of June 2013.
COURTESY TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Bonnybrook's failure unforeseeable: Report

'No history.' Regular inspections 'did not provide warnings,' says investigator

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

A months-long investigation into the failure of Calgary's Bonnybrook Bridge concluded that what happened in last year's floods could not have been predicted.

Despite being among the oldest bridges in the city at the time, Bonnybrook Bridge had "no history" of instability during high-water events, said George Fowler, the Transportation Safety Board of Canada's investigator in charge, who released his report on Wednesday.

"Unprecedented flooding of the Bow River was a major factor in this bridge failure," said Fowler.

The bridge failed due to scouring of pier No. 2, separating it from its "original masonry," Fowler said.

The Bonnybrook Bridge was originally built in 1897, then expanded to add more tracks in 1912 and expanded again in 1969.

New bridges today are "socketed into the bedrock," making scouring like this highly unlikely, he added.

CP Rail's inspections of the bridge were adequate, Fowler said, and even "exceeded" federal requirements.

"Visual observations of the rail and track alignment, and service, would normally detect deviations," he said.

"However, in this case, such inspections did not provide warnings of the sudden bridge failure."

An official with CP Rail welcomed the final report. President and chief operating officer Keith Creel said he agrees with the safety board that the City of Calgary's command structure worked well to get the site secure and to help remove the derailed cars.

Milestones

Six tank cars carrying a petroleum diluent derailed on June 27, 2013 and teetered on the edge of the failing bridge. They were unloaded and removed over two days and never went into the river.

- **Fall 2013.** CP dismantled the Bonnybrook Bridge in the fall of 2013. A new span was completed in April.
- **New pier.** The damaged pier has been replaced and reinforced with a new foundation.

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Arts Commons

Epcor Centre rebranded

Calgary's artistic venue formerly known as the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts is now Arts Commons.

The downtown theatre and arts space announced the name change and rebranding Wednesday, following the loss of naming sponsor Epcor.

"This new name reflects the momentum that the Centre has been gaining over the last few years, and best communicates where we want to be as part of Calgary's cultural landscape," Arts Commons president and CEO Johann Zietsman said.

"Our centre — your centre — has developed beyond being just a 'Centre for the Performing Arts.' In addition to supporting great performing arts, we welcome and are open to so much more." METRO

People not industry

Albertans want safe water

Albertans say they want the province to do much more to protect and conserve fresh water.

Some concerns outlined in a government report call for better management of the health of lakes and restricting the use of fresh water and chemicals in hydraulic fracturing.

People also told the province to more aggressively protect the headwaters of rivers, curb the use of fresh water by the oilsands and ensure that people, not industry, are the first priority when it comes to water.

There are also calls for more dams and reservoirs to store water, especially in the south, but such projects should not negatively affect First Nations and Metis. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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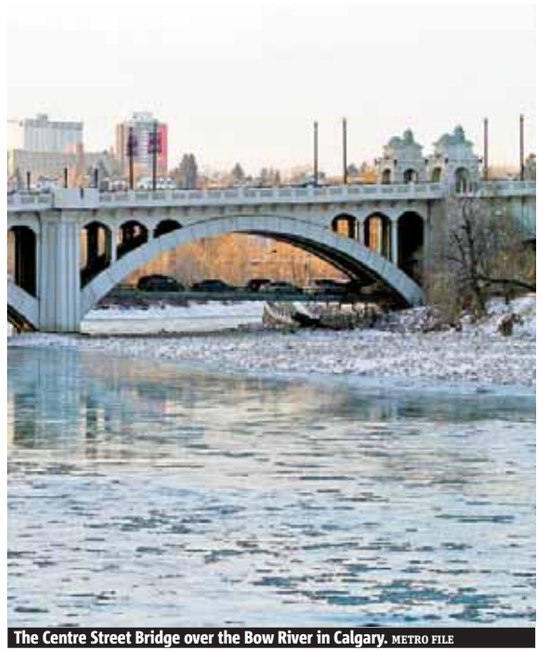

The Centre Street Bridge over the Bow River in Calgary. METRO FILE

Question of over or under remains

North-central LRT. Line to run along Centre Street

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Calgary's eventual north-central LRT line should run along Centre Street, most councillors on the city's transportation committee agreed Thursday, but they put off a decision on whether trains should travel below the Bow River or over it.

Connecting the proposed line from north Calgary to downtown remains an open question, a logistical challenge and a pricey undertaking, no matter how the city approaches the long-term project.

City staff estimate that tunnelling beneath the Bow River would cost roughly $1.8 billion and save between three and seven minutes in travel time from the north end of the line to downtown, compared to a $1.1-billion plan to have trains use the existing Centre Street bridge to cross the waterway.

"So there's a $700-million premium for that tunnel," senior transit planner Jonathan Lea told the committee.

The tunnel option was the preferred choice among north-Calgary residents who took part in public consultations earlier this year, Lea added, in part because it would allow two motor-vehicle lanes in each direction to be maintained on Centre Street from downtown to 9 Avenue N, as well as cycling infrastructure.

The other option would see a more cramped roadway, with one lane of traffic in each direction and the LRT track in the middle of that stretch of Centre Street.

But Coun. Shane Keating said it would be tough to choose the tunnel option as there have been no funding commitments from the federal or provincial governments to date for the multi-billion-dollar Green Line project to run light rail from north-central to southeast Calgary.

"Can we spend close to a billion dollars on a tiny segment of the LRT for the future? I don't think so," he said. "You can never get the best of the best when you don't have enough money today to start."

The committee approved aligning the LRT line along Centre Street instead of Edmonton Trail but put off a vote on the Bow River question until early in the New Year.

Tunnel cost

$700M

The estimated extra cost to tunnel under the Bow River rather than having light-rail trains use the existing Centre Street bridge to cross the water

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NE123P414

Four La Familia members arrested in raid

Alleged links to drug cartel. Alberta law enforcement also seized $600,000 in drugs and weapons

LEAH HOLOIDAY
Metro in Edmonton

Alberta law enforcement is calling the recent arrest of four gang members believed to have ties to Mexican drug cartels a serious hit on organized crime.

On Dec. 11, members of Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams executed three search warrants in Edmonton, arresting four members of La Familia, including the president of Alberta's chapter, and seizing $600,000 in drugs, weapons and cash.

Jose Antonio Monterrey, 33, was arrested at Edmonton's International Airport attempting to board a flight. Peter Alan Griffon, 34, Cody Sterling Tremblett, 28, and Penny Sue Fleming, 34, were also arrested. The four now face 40 drug and weapons charges.

Insp. Darcy Strang said La Familia's presence in Alberta is a huge concern.

The gang is suspected of having strong ties to Mexican drug cartels and the El Salvador gang Mara Salvatrucha, also known as MS-13.

"Their connection to Mexican cartels and MS-13 creates a linkage to violence that is incomprehensible to most," he said.

Strang said the weapons seized — which included two .22-calibre rifles, a .44-calibre Desert Eagle handgun, throwing knives, bear spray and a sawed-off shotgun — are designed to injure people.

"This is a group that was armed and ready to defend what they had and armed (and) ready to take over other groups that tried to take them over," he added.

Along with the weapons, police seized five kilograms of cocaine, 2.7 kilograms of MDMA, two kilograms of buffing agent, Oxycodone pills and a cocaine press.

Strang said the group was both aggressive in distributing the drugs to new markets — including Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Drayton Valley, Lloydminster and Red Deer — and recruiting new members.

Elsewhere in Canada

La Familia also has factions in Vancouver and Saskatchewan, said Insp. Darcy Strang.

Guns, bullets, drugs and paraphernalia were seized Dec. 11 after Alberta law enforcement executed search warrants at three Edmonton homes. Four members of La Familia, believed to have connections with Mexican drug cartels, were arrested in the bust. LEAH HOLOIDAY/METRO

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Wrap it Up

Volunteers wanted to wrap gifts

Looking to do some good during the last weekend before Christmas? Head over to Sunridge Mall or Bankers Hall this weekend to volunteer your time and wrapping skills.

Volunteers will be wrapping gifts for customers at the mall who make donations to the Nurture Yourself program, which aims to help people by teaching valuable techniques and helping develop self-esteem.

The wrapping happens in shifts throughout the day, and each shift is four to five hours long. Individuals or groups are welcome, but there is a maximum of 12 wrappers per shift.

For more information and to register to volunteer, visit www.nurtureyourself.org. METRO

Christmas in Kensington

Fun event wrapping up for the season

It's a busy time for Santa, but he'll be walking through Kensington and spreading cheer on Sunday to help end this year's Christmas in Kensington.

Calgarians can catch an Ugly Sweater red carpet event at 6 p.m., followed by a dance performance and then a screening of Love Actually at the Velvet Cinema in Kensington on Saturday. Tickets can be purchased beforehand at New Age and The Naked Leaf for $15, or $20 at the door.

To wrap up the weekend, Santa will be roaming the streets of Kensington with carollers on Sunday from noon until 2 p.m.

For more information visit www.visitkensington.com. METRO

Organizer says holiday concert idea was sparked by Ghomeshi scandal

Carol of the Belles. Show features 12 of Calgary's top female singers and musicians

BACKSTAGE PASS
Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca

The recent Jian Ghomeshi scandal is an unlikely catalyst for a family-friendly Christmas musical event.

But this weekend's Carol of the Belles holiday concert was indeed inspired by the disgraced former CBC radio star — or more specifically, the social media conversations that followed.

"You could feel there was a groundswell or a tipping point about how we talk about women's issues," says co-organizer Kenna Burima of the days and weeks following the Ghomeshi bombshell, in which several women came forward to accuse the once-popular host of Q of sexual violence.

"I felt it was important to continue these conversations, so I thought about how could I best serve the women in my community, and also celebrate and bring into the spotlight all these amazing female musicians in the city?"

The answer was Carol of the Belles, a multi-genre musical event featuring 12 of Calgary's top female singers and musicians performing original Christmas carols and covers of less-traditional Yuletide fare.

The show, which takes place Saturday at the Arrata Opera Centre, also doubles as a fundraiser for WiseGuyz.

Run by the Calgary Sexual Health Centre, the program is aimed at junior high school boys and addresses such issues as human rights, healthy sexual relationships, homophobia and victim blaming.

"These are all the issues that come into play when we talk about rape culture," Burima says.

"Things like victim blaming and slut-shaming. It's these types of conversations we need to start having with teenage boys."

While the reason behind the fundraiser is serious, Burima — a singer and songwriter who is also performing during the show — says Carol of the Belles will be a joyous and inclusive occasion.

"We wanted to put together a Christmas event where there was Christmas music and decorations and all that kind of stuff, but not super traditional," Burima says.

"And we also didn't want it to be a celebration of women in music in Calgary to the exclusion of our male counterparts. So we'll have an all-male backing band. As someone who plays in bands which are mostly made up of dudes and also having male friends who are allies, we all felt very strongly that the event showcased the talent Calgary had to offer from both genders."

The details

- Carol of the Belles takes place Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Arrata Opera Centre, 1315 – 7 Street SW. Tickets are $20 in advance/$25 at the door and children 12 and under get in free.
- In addition to performances by such artists as Aimee-Jo Benoit, Jocelyn & Lisa, Joanna Borromeo, Samantha Savage Smith, Miesha Louie and Liz Stevens, the event will also feature a craft table for kids, mulled wine, a silent auction and a visit from Mrs. Claus.
- Go to http://caroloftheblellesyyc.brownpapertickets.com for more information.

Kenna Burima helped organize and is performing at this Saturday's Carol of the Belles, which also acts as a fundraiser for the Calgary Sexual Health Centre's WiseGuyz program. LISA WILTON/FOR METRO

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Free trip around the world? It's all in a name

Toronto. Nova Scotia woman with the same name as man's ex-girlfriend gets a world-spanning plane ticket

A Toronto man has finally found Ms. Right — sort of.

Last May, Jordan Axani, 28, and his then-girlfriend named Elizabeth Gallagher booked heavily discounted round-the-world air tickets, but their relationship ended, and he didn't want her ticket to go to waste. The ticket had a strict no-transfer policy, but since passport information was not required when booking, it can be used by any Canadian named Elizabeth Gallagher.

Axani posted his offer last month on the popular Reddit social-media website and received thousands of emails, including 18 from actual Elizabeth Gallaghers with Canadian passports.

He's now chosen his travel mate, Elizabeth Quinn Gallagher, a 23-year-old from Cole Harbour, N.S.

"It's strictly a platonic trip. It's going to be great," Axani said.

At first the new Elizabeth Gallagher thought a trip with a stranger whose ex-girlfriend's name is the same as hers was "crazy" but she hit it off with Axani after talking on the phone with him for hours.

The trip is scheduled to start Dec. 21 in New York City and continue on to Milan, Prague, Paris, Bangkok and New Delhi before ending in Toronto on Jan. 12. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elizabeth Gallagher won a ticket around the world with Jordan Axani. CONTRIBUTED

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Federal regulations

New measures aim to reduce rail-crossing crashes

The federal government has introduced long-awaited regulations aimed at reducing deadly train collisions at level crossings.

The regulations, to take full effect over the next seven years, establish consistent grade crossing safety standards across Canada and clarify the responsibilities of rail companies and road authorities.

Transport Canada says the regulations will improve safety at approximately 14,000 public and 9,000 private grade crossings along 42,650 kilometres of railway track. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Landing in Halifax

Flight cut short, RCMP cite unruly passenger

Police were called to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport on Wednesday over an unruly passenger who allegedly assaulted two flight attendants on an Air Canada flight to Toronto from London.

RCMP spokesman Sgt. Al Leblanc said the flight made an unscheduled landing at the airport just before 12:30 p.m. He said a 30-year-old woman from South Africa was taken into custody from the plane for allegedly assaulting two flight attendants.

No other details were provided. METRO

S-221. Proposed bill targets transit assault

People who assault transit drivers can expect to do more jail time in 2015, provided a new bill becomes law.

Sponsored by Sen. Bob Runciman, Bill S-221 would encourage judges to hand down stricter sentences to those convicted of attacking bus drivers and other transit operators.

Runciman said assaulting transit workers puts the entire public at risk.

"2011 is the last year we have stats for, but there were over 2,000 reported assaults, 80 per cent of which were in the vehicle," he said. "And in that case, it's not just the driver who is in danger. It could be a pedestrian, a cyclist or someone in a car travelling in the other direction."

The Conservative senator introduced the bill last fall. It's since passed the Senate, and Runciman is confident it will become law by February.

Brad Ross, a spokesman for the Toronto Transit Commission, said Bill S-221 has the full support of the TTC.

"On average, about one TTC employee is assaulted or threatened every day over a matter of less than $3," Ross told Metro.

On Wednesday morning, a TTC bus driver in Toronto was beaten and robbed by a would-be passenger following what police described as a "fare dispute."

The man reportedly dragged the driver to the ground outside the bus and kicked him repeatedly before fleeing. The driver was taken to hospital but is expected to recover.

The assailant remains at large, but the TTC has given police security footage of the incident.

"Police take these matters as seriously as we do, and we are confident the assailant will be apprehended," Ross said.

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Trial. Jury continues to deliberate Magnotta's fate

The jury at Luka Rocco Magnotta's murder trial appeared to focus on the mental disorder defence Wednesday as it asked a pointed question before ending a second day of deliberations without a verdict.

"Is a personality disorder a disease of the mind as a matter of law?" the jurors asked the judge as they emerged from their deliberations for the first time.

Quebec Superior Court Justice Guy Cournoyer answered "yes" and told them no more before sending them back to deliberate further.

They remained holed up and left without asking anything else. They will resume deliberating Thursday.

The accused has admitted to killing and dismembering Jun Lin in May 2012 but his lawyer argues he should be found not criminally responsible because he is schizophrenic and couldn't tell right from wrong at the time.

The judge had told the jurors in his instructions they should start their work by focusing on the not criminally responsible issue.

Cournoyer also said they would need to answer two questions for the mental disorder defence to be accepted. Firstly, is it more likely than not Magnotta was suffering from a mental disorder at the time of the offence? And secondly, did the disorder make him incapable of knowing the acts were wrong?

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Crown's case

The Crown has argued the crimes were planned and deliberate and that the steps Magnotta took to hide his tracks and flee authorities were not consistent with someone suffering from a mental disorder.

- Prosecutor Louis Bouthillier said Magnotta's schizophrenia was a misdiagnosis and that his medical problems and behaviour are likely the result of personality disorders.

'We can attach her name again to this conversation'

Rehtaeh Parsons. A directive from the Nova Scotia attorney general allows name of teen cyberbullying victim to be reported

Rehtaeh Parsons is shown in a handout photo. HO-FACEBOOK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

When a judge placed a publication ban on Rehtaeh Parsons' identity, Glen Canning began wearing a T-shirt to court bearing his daughter's name in a campaign that ended Wednesday as reporting restrictions in the child pornography case were eased.

For Canning, a directive from Nova Scotia's attorney general allowing Parsons' name to be reported was a relief.

"We can attach her name again to this conversation and that's just fantastic," Canning said.

Attorney General Lena Metlege Diab says breaches of the ban by the media or in other forums will not be prosecuted, unless the girl's name is used in a derogatory way.

A judge put the mandatory ban on Parsons' identity in May in the case of two young men who were charged with child pornography offences, even though he said his decision "serves no purpose" because both of the girls' parents wanted her identity public and her case had been widely reported.

Last month, the Halifax Chronicle-Herald identified Parsons as the victim in the case when one of the young men pleaded guilty in youth court. He will be sentenced in January for distributing a sexually graphic image of the teenaged girl, who died last year following a suicide attempt.

The other young man was given a conditional discharge for making child pornography.

Canning said he believes the decision by the Chronicle-Herald and at least two other media outlets to publish his daughter's name tipped the balance. He said the ban shut down debate on the issues of the case and the confusion even led some high schools to cancel his appearances to talk about cyberbullying.

Canning said the decision would also help free up the work of an organization he started last month with Rehtaeh's mother, Leah Parsons. The Rehtaeh Parsons Society aims to address the prevalence of cyberbullying, youth sexual violence and the distribution of images among young people.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

To read about Glen Canning's struggle with the publication ban, see page 27

Canada 'indispensable' in secret Cuba talks, U.S. says

The White House is extending its thanks to Canada for hosting the meetings that let to the United States and Cuba agreeing to re-establish diplomatic relations and open economic and travel ties.

Senior Obama administration officials say Canada was "indispensable" in hosting the majority of the secret talks, which took place for more than a year.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper downplayed Canada's contribution, telling the CBC that Canada did not mediate or direct the talks. But he called Wednesday's announcement an "overdue development."

"We facilitated places where the two countries could have a dialogue and explore ways of normalizing the relationship," Harper said. "I personally believe changes are coming in Cuba, and this will facilitate those."

Nonetheless, Harper said, those changes will come slowly to an economy and a society he called "overdue for entry" into the 21st century.

Harper also issued a statement congratulating the two countries on reaching their agreement, which marks a historic shift in U.S. policy after a half-century of enmity towards Cuba dating back to the Cold War.

U.S. officials say the first face-to-face talks with the Cubans took place in Canada in June of last year, with several other discussions taking place since then.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

For more on the U.S.-Cuba deal, see page 24

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Stateless Yukon man looks at applying for refugee status

Donovan McGlaughlin admits his story is hard to believe, but he wants Canadians to keep an open mind as he explains why he may have to apply as a political refugee in the country he's called home for his 60 years.

His father was First Nation, his mother Caucasian, and both were anarchists who didn't want to register his birth because they feared he'd be taken and sent to a residential school, said McGlaughlin.

The ramifications of their decision have been far-reaching for the Dawson City, Yukon, resident, who said he's been caught up in a lifelong bureaucratic nightmare that has prevented him from obtaining any form of identification, including a health-care card.

Don McGlaughlin pictured with his wife and children. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

He said his problem came to a head even before he was hit by a series of heart attacks that have resulted in up to $130,000 in medical and air-ambulance bills. Nobody in government, it seems, has yet been able to help him, said McGlaughlin, who said applying as a political refugee may be his last option.

"I don't know how much harder my situation has to be without applying for political-refugee status," said McGlaughlin. "What else is there? I mean I'm stateless. I have no rights within my own country."

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NE123G514

School massacre. Pakistan buries, mourns victims

As they buried their children Wednesday, the families spoke of their dreams. One boy had just gotten high marks on his midterm and hoped to become a pilot. A 13-year-old wanted to become a doctor. Another kid just loved playing video games with his cousins.

At cemeteries across the Pakistani city of Peshawar, families lowered the rough wooden coffins of young students and their teachers into the cold ground and gathered under funeral tents or at home, trying to comprehend the militant attack on a school a day earlier that killed 148 people, almost all of them children.

The Pakistani government and military vowed a stepped-up campaign aimed at rooting out militant strongholds in the country's tribal regions along the border with Afghanistan.

The Pakistani Taliban, which has waged an insurrection against the government for a decade, claimed responsibility. The group says it was seeking revenge for a military assault launched in June in North Waziristan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistani Christians take part in a candlelight vigil Wednesday, paying tribute to the victims killed in Tuesday's Taliban attack on a military-run school in Peshawar. K.M. CHAUDARY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S., Cuba mend relations after 50 years of tension

Historic agreement. Announcement follows more than a year of secret talks

President Barack Obama abruptly announced the U.S. is re-establishing long-broken diplomatic relations with Cuba on Wednesday, declaring an end to America's "outdated approach" to the Communist island in a historic shift aimed at ending a half-century of Cold War enmity.

"These 50 years have shown that isolation has not worked," Obama said in remarks from the White House. "It's time for a new approach."

As Obama spoke to Americans, Cuban President Raul Castro addressed his own nation from Havana, where bells pealed and schoolchildren interrupted their lessons to mark the historic news. Castro said that while the two countries still have profound differences in areas such as human rights and foreign policy, they must learn "the art of living together in a civilized manner."

Wednesday's announcement followed more than a year of secret talks between the U.S. and Cuba, including clandestine meetings in Canada and the Vatican and personal involvement from Pope Francis. Setting the stage for the diplomatic breakthrough, Cuba released American Alan Gross, who had been imprisoned for five years, and a Cuban who had spied for the U.S. In exchange, three Cubans jailed in Florida were released by the U.S.

Gross spoke with Obama from the plane carrying him home, then met with Secretary of State John Kerry on the ground and later appeared before Washington reporters.

In Havana, Carlos Gonzalez, a 32-year-old information-technology specialist, spoke for many in calling the announcement "a shot of oxygen, a wish come true."

"It is an advance that will open the road to a better future for the two countries," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manuel Lopez watches inside his cigar shop in Union City, N.J., as a Spanish television network covers Cuban President Raul Castro's speech on Wednesday. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"This is game-changing.... Two wrongs never make a right. I truly hope that we can now get beyond these mutually belligerent policies."

U.S. contractor Alan Gross, imprisoned in Cuba for five years

Church of England

Church names its first female bishop

The Church of England on Wednesday named the first female bishop in its 500-year history, promoting saxophone-playing, soccer-loving vicar Libby Lane to bishop of Stockport. The announcement came five months after the church ended a long and divisive dispute by voting to allow women to serve as bishops.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Inquiry

Soldiers mistreated Iraqi detainees

A judge-led inquiry on Wednesday found British soldiers mistreated nine Iraqi detainees after a 2004 battle but it rejected allegations that soldiers murdered and tortured prisoners.

The inquiry concluded that British soldiers used methods such as blindfolding prisoners and depriving them of food and sleep during questioning at Camp Abu Naji in southern Iraq. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Siege. Gunman was once on Australia's watch list

The gunman responsible for a deadly siege in a Sydney café was once on the national security agency's watch list but was dropped off it years ago for reasons that remain unclear, Australia's prime minister said Wednesday.

Man Haron Monis, a 50-year-old Iranian-born, self-styled cleric described by Prime Minister Tony Abbott as deeply disturbed, took 17 people hostage inside a downtown Sydney café on Monday. Sixteen hours later, the siege ended in a barrage of gunfire when police rushed in to free the captives.

Two hostages were killed along with Monis.

Abbott said Monis was on the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation's watch list in 2008 and 2009 but was later dropped from it.

The agency was watching Monis because he had sent a series of offensive letters to the families of dead Australian soldiers, Abbott said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Back-to-back. Israel suffers sharp rebuffs in Europe

Israel suffered back-to-back diplomatic setbacks in Europe on Wednesday as Palestinians headed to the United Nations to try to set a two-year deadline for an Israeli withdrawal.

In Geneva, the international community delivered a stinging rebuke to Israel's settlement construction in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, saying the practice violates Israel's responsibilities as an occupying power.

In Luxembourg, meanwhile, a European Union court ordered the Palestinian group Hamas removed from the EU terrorist list for procedural reasons but said the 28-nation bloc can maintain asset freezes against Hamas members for now.

The Islamic militant group, which calls for the destruction of Israel, hailed the decision, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed outrage.

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NEXUS. Travel to U.S. to be easier for some Canadians

Travelling to the United States by air will be easier for some Canadian passengers, thanks to a new federal government initiative unveiled Wednesday.

NEXUS card holders and other low-risk trusted travellers who have already undergone extensive background checks will have access to dedicated screening lines at four of the country's busiest airports, Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said.

The trusted travellers include members of the Canadian and American armed forces, uniformed airline crews and members of the U.S. Global Entry travel program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dedicated screening

The dedicated screening lines are now available at Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montreal airports and eligible travellers can go through them without having to remove their shoes, belts, hats or jackets.

- They will also be allowed to keep liquids, aerosols and gels in their carry-on bags.

Market Minute

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Sony Pictures cancels The Interview release

Controversy. Following terrorist threats by hackers the studio has shelved the movie

James Franco, centre left, as Dave, and Seth Rogen as Aaron in Columbia Pictures' The Interview. ED ARAQUEL/COLUMBIA PICTURES-SONY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sony Pictures has cancelled the Dec. 25 release of The Interview after hackers threatened terror attacks and the largest multiplex chains in North America pulled the film from its screens.

In a statement Wednesday, Sony said it was cancelling The Interview release "in light of the decision by the majority of our exhibitors not to show the film." The studio, which has been shaken by hacker leaks over the past several weeks, said it respected and shared in the exhibitors' concerns.

"We are deeply saddened at this brazen effort to suppress the distribution of a movie, and in the process do damage to our company, our employees, and the American public," read the statement. "We stand by our filmmakers and their right to free expression and are extremely disappointed by this outcome."

Earlier Wednesday, Regal Cinemas, AMC Entertainment and Cinemark Theatres — the three top theatre chains in North America — announced that they were postponing any showings of The Interview, a comedy about a TV host (James Franco) and producer (Seth Rogen) tasked by the CIA to assassinate North Korea leader Kim Jong-un (played by Randall Park). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

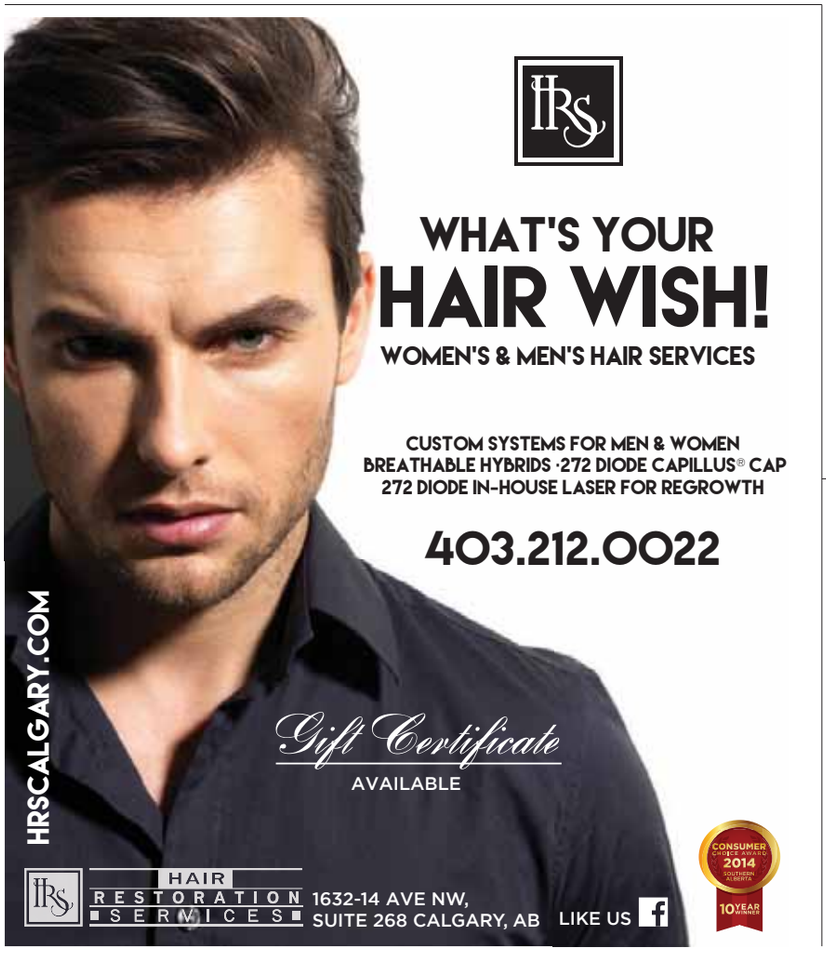
BlackBerry. CEO tries to revive the 'CrackBerry'

While BlackBerry's latest smartphone might look familiar, chief executive John Chen said Wednesday the new Classic model is hardly a "rehash" of old technology.

The head of the Waterloo, Ont.-based company stood before an audience in New York on Wednesday and told them he was responding to requests from some of BlackBerry's most loyal customers, such as the leaders of major U.S. banks.

"A lot of them pulled out their BlackBerry ... and told me 'Don't mess around with this thing. Don't mess around with the keyboard, don't mess around with the track pad,'" Chen said.

Reaching back to the heyday of the "CrackBerry" was a conscious decision by Chen to drag BlackBerry users, who have clung to their old and worn BlackBerry Bold and Curve models, into the next generation of the device. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Pet fashion is no joke

These clothing designers have to think about pattern, fabric and fit — as well as where to put the poo bags.

Creating on-trend outfits is a whole different animal for pet-fashion designers, whose work is becoming mainstream as animal lovers look to further pamper their pets. For some owners, it's a statement; for others, it's a way to match man's best friend; and sometimes it's simply about keeping animals warm this winter. But it's clear the number of dressed-up dogs and cats jumps significantly once holiday photos need to be taken.

A dog in American Beagle Outfitters items. COURTESY AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pet fashion got a leg up after American Eagle Outfitters received an outpouring from its April Fool's Day joke this year.

To raise money and awareness for an animal-welfare group, the popular retailer introduced a fake fashion line called American Beagle Outfitters. But the joke was on the Pittsburgh company.

"Our customers were very clear about their desire for this product to become a reality," a company spokesman said last month when welcoming the pet line for real. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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VOICES

HER NAME IS REHTAEH PARSONS

The father of the late Rehtaeh Parsons explains why he has reason to smile today after the courts said people can publish his daughter's name — as long as they do so with respect

GLEN CANNING
readers@metronews.ca

My daughter's name is Rehtaeh Parsons. I can send this column to Metro knowing it won't be redacted or the article refused for violating a publication ban.

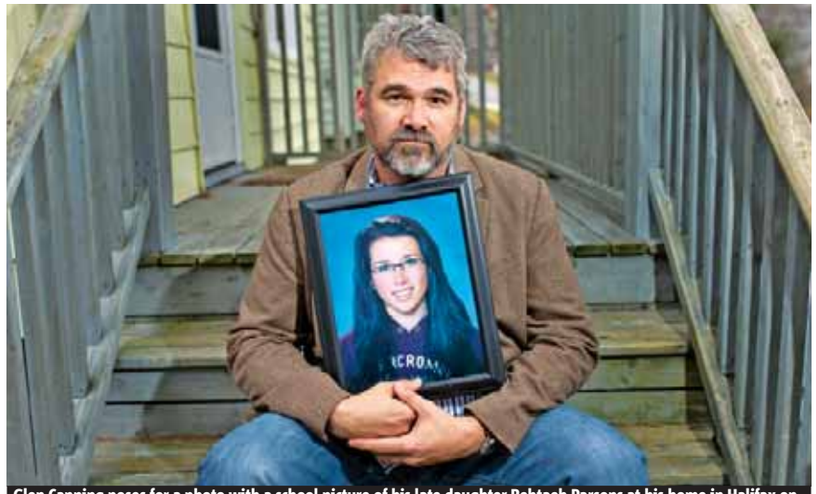
I can finally say her name without the uneasiness of breaking the law and being charged.

Since April I lived with the fear of having a police officer knock on my door and tell me I'm under arrest. To be honest, that fear included the look on the officer's face telling me police thought the ban as ridiculous as I did.

Everyone knows Rehtaeh's name but for the past eight months, no one wanted to come out and say it. Even her friends feared they would be arrested for wishing Rehtaeh a happy birthday on Facebook. That's how grey it was.

It has been a dark cloud to live under: Having high schools cancel talks about cyberbullying and consent because there was a publication ban in effect; the media erasing her name from the Internet; television segments showing my blurred face as I spoke about my daughter with her name bleeped out.

It was frustrating, to say the least. But today we finally have something to smile about.



Glen Canning poses for a photo with a school picture of his late daughter Rehtaeh Parsons at his home in Halifax on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Rehtaeh Parsons is her name — my daughter's name. I can say it now, and write it now, and talk about her openly on the radio, on television, in print, and online.

Wednesday morning, I meet with the Nova Scotia Attorney General and Minister of Justice Lena Diab, as well as the Director of Public Prosecutions Martin Herschorn.

They had asked to meet with me and Rehtaeh's mom, Leah, on Monday. When the meeting started, Minister Diab didn't waste any time — they were going to issue a directive on the publication ban on Rehtaeh's name.

After everything that happened in the past year, I had no expectations going in — not one. Before the meeting I wrote on Twitter "Rehtaeh Parsons is her name. Today I'm hoping to get my daughter's name back."

You're reading her name now because that wish came true. Her name is back. It was an emotional moment when Diab told us what they were about to do and read the statement she was about to release.

"If Ms. Parsons' name is used in a respectful way, the Director of Public Prosecutions will not prosecute any violation of the ban." If we were asked to word it, the release would be exactly the same.

Today I can at least smile a little. People showed courage and leadership and stood up for us and our daughter. As soon as I left the meeting, I called Halifax freelance journalist Ryan Van Horne and thanked him. He took a big risk when he put himself out there and broke the ban on Rehtaeh's name.

I loved my daughter with all my heart and soul. There will never be another Rehtaeh Parsons — not in name, not in the way she lived, and not in the way she died.

Being able to openly and honestly talk about her and her story will go a long way in making sure of that.

Ruling on cellphone searches

The Supreme Court recently ruled that police can look at your cellphone without a warrant. Metro reached out to two experts for analysis of the decision

HAVE A CELLPHONE? READ THIS

Lorne Goldstein, lawyer

Anyone who takes pictures, writes emails, keeps notes or does Internet searches on a cellphone should pay attention to the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of Her Majesty the Queen v. Fearon.

The judges ruled 4-3 that the contents of a cellphone can be searched incident to an arrest if (1) the arrest is lawful, (2) the search is actually incidental to the arrest and not for some other hidden purpose, (3) the nature and extent of the search are particular to the purpose of the arrest, and (4) the police take careful notes so that the search can be reviewed by a judge at trial.

The extent of the police search was of particular concern to the dissenting justices who recognized the unique nature of cellphones and the information they carry. However, the majority were content to set the law broadly and trust the police to exercise self-restraint.

It remains to be seen how many clicks on the photo icon or the Safari search history menu is too many.

In the Fearon case, the phone was unlocked. Future cases will have to consider how much pressure the arresting officers can put on a detainee to unlock his phone for the purposes of a search.

If the now lawful search would be frustrated by a password, can the police compel the owner to unlock the phone in the same way they can compel the driver of a car to open a door?

This question, and others, will have to be answered by trial judges seeking to apply the new law where the rubber meets the road: The courtrooms. *Lorne Goldstein is a partner at Abergel Goldstein & Partners, a Certified Specialist in Criminal Law and a part-time professor at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law.*

A CHILLING IMPLICATION

James Turner, crime journalist

It would be far easier to stomach the Supreme Court's new guidelines for warrantless police searches of cellphones if every arrest investigators made led to a charge and then public prosecution.

But that's not the way our justice system works — and the top court's ruling last Friday leaves a potential for serious police overreach into the private lives of citizens for the sheer sake of gathering intelligence.

It's not difficult to see how the process of holding police to account for these searches could become somewhat murky, and a door to potential misconduct could crack open. This is so because it's not always the case people placed under arrest will be charged with a crime and prosecuted in open court, where a cellphone search can be challenged and police conduct scrutinized. Even if no charge is laid, police still net the opportunity to search a phone and catalogue for their own uses what information they found on it.

What's dangerous is that the person arrested and released without charge has no recourse to challenge the validity of the search in court or have their privacy restored; once their privacy's been taken, it's gone.

"What a police officer sees simply cannot be unseen, even if there is justification provided after the fact," Toronto lawyer Omar Ha-Redeye wrote in a thoughtful commentary to the court's ruling. The implications of this are chilling. Given the vast amount of personal data we now store on cellphones, we were better off with police needing warrants to search them — just as they still must to search homes, computers and other personal, private property in most cases. *James Turner is a Winnipeg crime journalist and journalism instructor. He's on Twitter at @heyjturner.*

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Turning tragedy into comix

Books. Art Spiegelman says the dark, personal nature of his graphic novels lends itself to a different kind of storytelling

MIKE DONACHIE
mike.donachie@metronews.ca

Art Spiegelman is showing a retrospective of his work at the Art Gallery of Ontario. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ALL IMAGES USED BY PERMISSION OF THE ARTIST AND THE WYLIE AGENCY LLC. ALL BUT THE FIRST THREE ARE COURTESY OF DRAWN + QUARTERLY.

Art Spiegelman likes telling long stories.

He's the creator of Maus, the only graphic novel ever to win a Pulitzer Prize. It is, by design, a long story.

Ask him about it, as Metro did during one of his rare visits to Canada, and it leads to a lengthy conversation about art, tragedy, and, inevitably, the Holocaust.

Spiegelman is a chatty man, which might come as a surprise to anyone who's read his intensely personal, dark works.

As he talks privately in a side room at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto, which is showing a retrospective of more than 300 pieces of his work, the former chain smoker puffs on an e-cigarette, looking distinguished with his waistcoat and grey goatee.

Earlier, in an interview with more members of the media, he chuckled when he talked about being "trapped" by Maus, the thing he made.

But it established him as one of the most important figures in his medium, gaining him a special Pulitzer in 1992.

The personal nature of Spiegelman's work is a vital part of it, he later says.

It draws on his background as a seminal figure in North American underground comix, as he prefers to spell them.

"To be able to do comix that were personal seemed to invite and build a different kind of storytelling," he explains.

Maus is the story of his parents' experiences during the Holocaust, including their time at Auschwitz, and how Spiegelman interviewed his father about that time.

It came from an ambition to create "a very long comic book that needed a bookmark and could be reread."

Its creation is, in itself, a long story, starting in 1972 with Funny Animals, an underground comic that featured anthropomorphic creatures.

Invited to submit a story, Spiegelman chose a bedtime tale of Jewish life under Nazi Germany, entitling it Maus. It depicts Jews as mice and Nazis as cats.

Soon afterward, he wrote and drew Prisoner On The Hell Planet, as a way of recovering suppressed memories of his mother's suicide.

"I just grabbed paper and started getting it down as it came to me," Spiegelman says. "I had to do it."

By the end of the decade, the two works had come together in the longer-form Maus.

Long career

The work of Art Spiegelman isn't limited to Maus, but he's no stranger to tough subjects.

- **He began with underground titles like Short Order Comix and many others, but created Raw magazine with his wife in the 1970s, serializing early parts of Maus.**
- **Other work has included Topps bubblegum cards, with the creation of the Garbage Pail Kids one highlight, and revitalizing the 1920s beat poem The Wild Party with his illustrations in a new edition.**
- **There are also his covers for the New Yorker, including the iconic 9/11 cover showing the black Twin Towers against a black sky, and an image of a Hassidic Jew kissing an African-American woman, published during a time of racial tension.**
- **The attacks of New York, just a few blocks from his home, were also the focus of the work In The Shadow Of No Towers.**

Interestingly, Spiegelman says he's "not that competent" as an illustrator. He's happy to call himself a "cartoonist" or "comics artist" but he's more of an all-round storyteller, changing his style each time he tackles a new subject. He calls it a "process of reinventing the wheel."

"Everything I do leaves me collapsing at the end and having to reinvent myself," he says.

"It's difficult to keep doing that as we move on in the world and your bones get weary."

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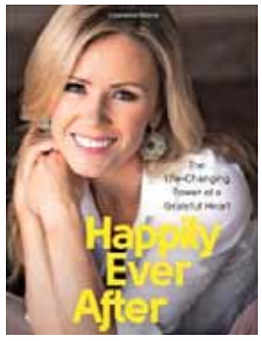
The original Bachelorette shares her secrets for love

Attitude of gratitude. Trista Sutter's reality TV success has a lot to do with her outlook

EMILY LAURENCE
Metro in New York City

It's been over a decade since Trista Sutter met and fell in love with her now-husband, firefighter Ryan Sutter, on the first season of The Bachelorette. As one of the few people who found lasting love through reality TV, people are constantly asking her what her secret is. Sutter released the book Happily Ever After: The Life-Changing Power of a Grateful Heart (out in paperback Dec. 30). Here are a few of her tips:



Appreciate the little things

"People think I have a fairytale life because of how I met my husband, our wedding and things like that. But it's really about the little things," Sutter tells us. She says that when she was in college, she started keeping a gratitude journal, listing five things she was thankful for each day, a practice she still continues. "It got me into the mentality of thinking of what I'm grateful for, not just having a husband and having a family, but being able to take a breath or the ability to move, see and hear," she says.

Spread social media goodness

Piggybacking off her gratitude journal idea, Sutter started posting her favourite part of the day on her social media channels five years ago, a nightly ritual she's still doing. "I've noticed a lot of other people taking on that (practice), too," Sutter says. Posting it online means you hold yourself accountable so you don't slack off and stop doing it; if you do, your followers will notice.

Outwardly express gratitude

Sutter says another key to personal happiness is actively saying thank you to the people around you for things they do that are often taken for granted. Recently, she teamed up with CoffeeMate to surprise night shift workers with coffee and she says doing something nice for others in turn made her feel good. "They were just so thankful for being recognized. ... (My husband) Ryan is a night-shift worker, so I know all too well what they sacrifice. Being able to sit down with the people we visited and have a conversation and be able to thank them was such a fun gift," she says.

Brush off the haters

Of course being a Bachelor and Bachelorette alum means Sutter still encounters haters. "Even today, I posted something and someone said a really mean comment like, 'Let's just call it what it is, The Sluterette.' Seriously? The show has been on the air for how long and how old are we? Just give me a break." But while the negativity is tough to ignore, Sutter is still proud of her time on the show. "I'm so grateful for it," she says. "I was truly there to meet Ryan and fall in love."

Trista Sutter says one of the keys to her happiness is thanking people around her for things that are often taken for granted. GETTY IMAGES

Graphic novels. Hiddleston is the new favourite to play Morpheus in The Sandman

The Thor co-star and Only Lovers Left Alive lead Tom Hiddleston has emerged as Neil Gaiman's latest favourite for the role of The Sandman main character Morpheus — or, failing that, anyone else with an English accent and sufficiently good cheekbones. Long regarded as rich material for a film adaptation, plans for a screen adaptation of Gaiman's seminal graphic novel The Sandman gained renewed momentum this year.

A treatment by David Goyer (The Dark Knight, Batman v. Superman) was handed off to Jack Thorne, writer on multiple This Is England TV series as well as Nick Hornby adaptation A Long Way Down, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt in a producer's role.

Morpheus in The Sandman
CONTRIBUTED

At one point it had been thought that Gordon-Levitt would take on the main part too, but with Gaiman publicly ruminating on other possible choices, that may not have been the case.

Gaiman has long been on the lookout for potential Morpheus actors, the author explained in conversation with the U.K.'s Radio Times. "There was a time Johnny Depp would've been a great Morpheus, but now he's too old and it's fine." AFP

Tom Hiddleston
GETTY IMAGES FILE

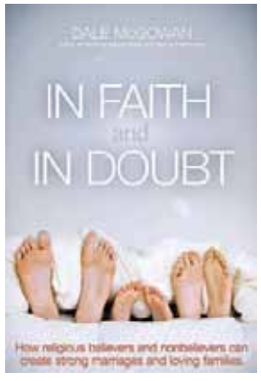
Helping interfaith couples make it through December

Advice. Author of In Faith and in Doubt says neither partner gets to declare that everything is non-negotiable

LAKSHMI GANDHI
Metro in New York City

The holidays can be particularly stressful for couples who don't share the same spiritual or religious views. Should an atheist attend midnight mass with the in-laws? Are Christmas trees or menorahs OK? Without clear expectations, getting through December with your nerves intact can be challenging.

"Everybody has to negotiate — neither partner can declare everything non-negotiable. That's not OK," says Dale McGowan, a longtime atheist and the author of the book In Faith and in Doubt. "What they have to do is pick and choose."


DALE McGOWAN
IN FAITH and IN DOUBT
How religious believers and nonbelievers can create strong marriages and loving families

McGowan shares his thoughts on how couples can respect both of their belief systems and strengthen their relationship in the process.

Should everyone attend services?

McGowan says every couple should talk about their negotiables and non-negotiables. "My wife's extended family is quite religious and I go to church every year with my mother-in-law," explains McGowan, who says his wife was a Southern Baptist when they married 23 years ago. "For me, going to church with her was a perfectly fine compromise and a way to honour a part of our family."

Some things can't be compromised:

"If you have an atheist who had a painful separation from religion, it can be really difficult for someone to attend church," he says. "People have to respect that." If you or your partner feel like you absolutely cannot participate in religious activities, it's vital that you talk about it.

Mutual respect is key:

"Sometimes I hear people say, 'Sometimes I struggle with this because I can't respect what my partner believes.' But you don't have to agree on beliefs, what you do have to say is, 'I respect my partner.'"

Books

Ava Lee series heads to CBC TV

CBC-TV plans to adapt Canadian author Ian Hamilton's Ava Lee crime thriller series. The female protagonist is a fearless Chinese-Canadian forensic accountant who lives in Toronto and is gay. House of Anansi Press says Strada Films has struck a development deal with the CBC for a limited series.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Judy Blume pens book for adults

Judy Blume is returning to the grown-up section. The author's first adult novel since 1998 is coming out in June. Publisher Alfred A. Knopf announced Monday that the novel In the Unlikely Event will be set in the early 1950s in Blume's native New Jersey and will tell of a series of mysterious plane crashes.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bueller, Private Ryan 'saved' by film registry

Film preservation.
U.S. Library of Congress announces the films it plans to preserve in 2014

Saving Private Ryan and Ferris Bueller's Day Off are among 25 movies being inducted this year into the National Film Registry for long-term preservation, the U.S. Library of Congress announced Wednesday.

The library selected films for their cultural, historic or esthetic qualities. This year's selections span the years 1913 to 2004. They include such familiar and popular titles as The Big Lebowski and Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, while others were milestones in film history.

Stephen Spielberg's Saving Private Ryan from 1998 was chosen in part for its ultra-realism with scenes depicting "war as hell." On a lighter note, the comedy Ferris Bueller's Day Off from 1986 was chosen as the first film on the registry from the late director John Hughes. Curators noted Ferris Bueller emerged as one of the great teen heroes of film.

The oldest selection dates to 1913 and is believed to be the earliest surviving feature film starring black actors. Vaudevillian Bert Williams gathered with black performers in New York City to make the film Bert Williams Lime Kiln Club Field Day. The film was discovered 100 years later in the film vault at the Museum of Modern Art.

The Library of Congress runs a major film preservation effort at its audio-visual conservation centre built inside a Cold War-era bunker in Culpeper, Va. With this year's additions, the National Film Registry now includes 650 films — a small part of the library's motion picture collection, which contains 1.3 million items.

"By preserving these films, we protect a crucial element of American creativity, culture and history," Librarian of Congress James Billington said in announcing the new selections.

Some of the most endangered films are silent films. A report from the library last year found 70 per cent of the nation's silent feature films have been lost and only 14 per cent still exist in their original 35 mm format.

The silent films selected for preservation this year include The Dragon Painter from 1919, starring Hollywood's first Asian star, Sessue Hayakawa, and the 1916 silent film Shoes, which examined poverty and prostitution, curators said.

Other films were chosen for their cultural significance. A 1976 independent film entitled Please Don't Bury Me Alive! that was chosen for the registry is considered by historians to be the first Chicano feature film.

Set in a San Antonio barrio, filmmaker Efrain Gutierrez explored his story as a young Chicano man, questioning his people's place in society at the end of the Vietnam War as thousands of his Latino brethren returned home in coffins. Others faced segregation, poor schools and a justice system that was filling prisons with Chicanos. The filmmakers were angry with how Hollywood portrayed Mexican Americans.

"We were invisible in our own national culture," Gutierrez said in a written statement. "We were being buried alive."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saving Private Ryan was among 25 films chosen this year to be preserved in the U.S. National Film Registry. CONTRIBUTED

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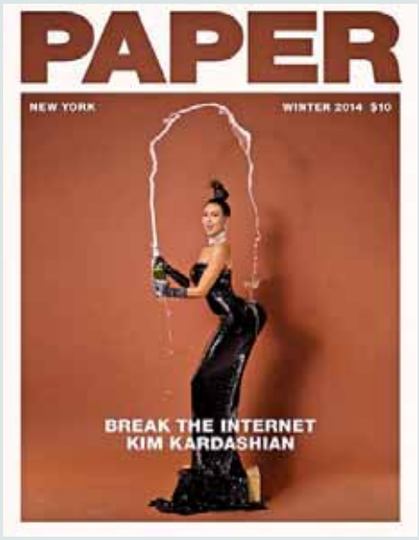
Kim, Shia and other 2014 pop-culture moments

#BreaktheInternet



Hashtag or no hashtag, I just checked and the Internet remains safely unbroken. But that doesn't mean this image of Kim Kardashian's physics-defying derriere hasn't broken something deep inside of me. Could be my spirit, could be my brain, tough to say. Although Ms. Kardashian may not have wrecked the Internet, she did sear this image into our collective consciousness. So … good job? (On the other hand, the designer of that dress may have been saddened that we all assumed it was a trash bag at first.) **NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD**

LaBeouf is not famous anymore #IamSorry

Shia LaBeouf GETTY IMAGES

Professionally, 2014 was a mixed bag for Shia LaBeouf. While his full-frontal work in Lars Von Trier's two-part Nymphomaniac didn't generate much excitement, his Second World War tank drama, Fury, was a bona fide hit. But all that was easily overshadowed by the much more entertaining Shia LaBeouf Show going on throughout the year in Berlin, L.A. and New York. Whether he was using a paper bag on his head to announce that he's Not Famous Anymore, having staring contests with strangers in art galleries, or getting arrested outside Broadway musicals, LaBeouf was tough to ignore. **NED EHRBAR**

Ellen's Oscar selfie didn't break the Internet, but it did tweet its way to a record

Speaking of breaking the Net, that's what Academy Awards host Ellen DeGeneres claimed she was trying to do with her star-studded selfie taken during the telecast — or at least, she was trying to break Twitter. The candid photo of DeGeneres along with Jennifer Lawrence, Channing Tatum, Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts, Bradley Cooper, Kevin Spacey, Brad Pitt, Lupita Nyong'o, Lupita Nyong'o's brother and part of Jared Leto became the most retweeted photo of all time and ground Twitter's servers to a halt. The photo had been retweeted 3.37 million times.
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Solange's smackdown in an elevator cage match with Jay-Z

May 5, 2014: The surveillance footage seen round the world. On their way out of a Met Gala after-party, Solange Knowles lunges past sister Beyoncé to unleash hell on brother-in-law Jay-Z — and TMZ got its hands on the footage. Sadly, much like the rumours of marital strife that swirled around Beyoncé and Jay-Z all summer, this slap-fight heard round the world may have been faked solely to boost ticket sales for their tour. But whatever, Solange knows how to put on a show — as if her wedding photos alone weren't enough proof of that. **NED EHRBAR**

Jay-Z, Beyoncé and Solange all looked composed when they arrived at the Met Gala. GETTY IMAGES

Bieber beats the odds

Justin Bieber deserves credit for at least one thing: After starting off 2014 with this ridiculous, glassy-eyed mug shot in Miami, when he was arrested for drag-racing, driving under the influence and whiningly resisting arrest, I was pretty sure he wouldn't make it to December without ending up in jail or rehab. Although he did manage to juggle multiple pending court cases for DUI, assaulting a driver and egging his neighbour's house, Canada's little scamp managed to make it out of 2014 unscathed — unless you count his recent bleach job. **NED EHRBAR**

Will the reborn Stephen Colbert call a truce on his Canada cracks?

Stephen Colbert GETTY IMAGES

Tonight, Stephen Colbert is set to (probably) kill off Stephen Colbert, the ignorant and indignant right-wing shouter. By all accounts, in real life, Colbert is a kinder sort, so we'll likely avoid any more of his jabs at Canada. Our favourites include these gems:

- Declaring Windsor as "Earth's rectum," before moving it to Winnipeg after "maplestream" media criticism.
- "Syrup-suckers" and "iceholes."
- After The Beaver changed its name to Canada's History, Colbert sent minions to Urban Dictionary to define "Canada's History" as sinister sex acts. **ANDREW FIFIELD/METRO**

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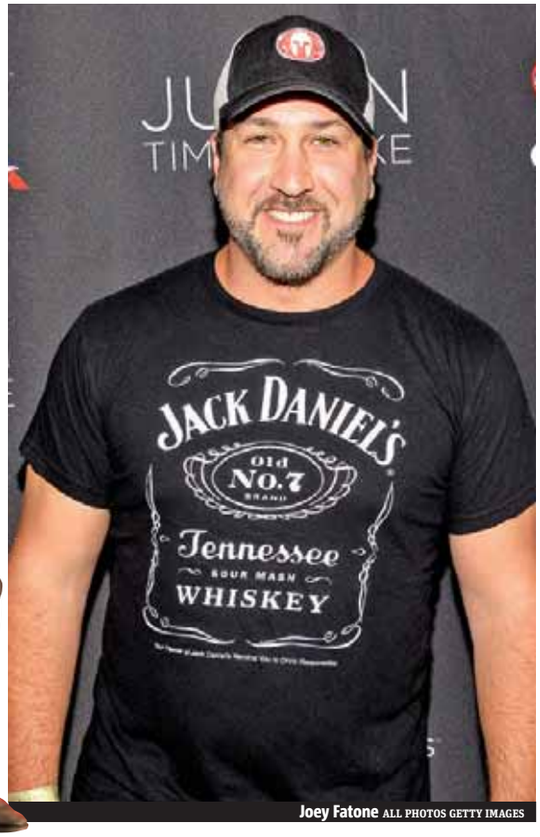
Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Joey Fatone ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Joey Fatone is out of sync on Justin and Jessica's baby news

There's at least one member of *NSYNC who might be dropped from Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel's Christmas card list, as Joey Fatone went and announced the couple's pregnancy before they could.

"He told me a while ago, and I kept my mouth shut, but I can talk about it now," Fatone tells InTouch.

I'm just guessing here, Joey, but I'm pretty sure when Justin said you can talk about it now he didn't mean to a tabloid. Your baby shower gift better be pretty spectacular, is all I'm saying.

Fatone, by the way, is super-stoked for the couple. "Jessica is awesome, and Justin is a kid at heart," he says.

Yeah, about that. A less-identifiable source tells the National Enquirer that Biel is a bit concerned Timberlake isn't quite ready for all this parenting stuff.

"They've spent little time together during Jessica's pregnancy" because of Timberlake's ongoing concert tour, the source says. "Justin pretends he doesn't have a care, but you can see how antsy he is. He knows it won't be long before his life changes. Now she's concerned it might be more than Justin can handle." Rest assured, Fatone will let us know about it first.

They're real and they're spectacular

Britney Spears' new Woman's Health magazine cover was met nearly immediately by speculation that she'd benefited from some enhancement by the Photoshop department. So the magazine put out a video from behind the scenes of the shoot, hoping to put such talk to rest. And honestly, the woman's been doing a regular Vegas show for a while, so why are we skeptical of her abs being, as the magazine cover exclaims, "insane"? Yours would be, too, with that work schedule.

Angelina hires online bodyguard for brood

Angelina Jolie admits she's not terribly Internet-savvy, so to make sure her six kids are being safe online, she brings in professional help.

"We have someone who monitors that," she tells People magazine, explaining that neither she nor husband Brad Pitt have any sort of social media presence. "It's a scary world. It's so beyond what we understand. We wouldn't even know what to look for." Well, cyber-bullying by Scott Rudin would be one thing I'd watch out for if I were her.

Angelina Jolie

Mindy Kaling debuts the Wreath Witherspoon on The Mindy Project. Below, Instagrammers have been posting their own versions of the wreath. NBC

Reese is a fan of Mindy's Wreath Witherspoon

Mindy Kaling has launched a new holiday tradition, with the introduction of the Wreath Witherspoon on The Mindy Project last week. And now the crafty home decoration — a traditional Christmas wreath adorned with photos of Oscar-winning actress Reese Witherspoon — has been given the seal of approval by Witherspoon herself. Witherspoon reposted Kaling's Instagram of various fan interpretations of the gag exclaiming, "Love it!" Maybe she'll even be making one herself this year.

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Throwing Marsala into your mix

Style. How to incorporate Pantone's colour of the year into your wardrobe

KATELYN ZBOROWSKI
Metro News in Toronto

When hearing the word 'Marsala' one may think of an Italian chicken dish or rich red wine. However, Pantone's recent unveiling of the 2015 colour of the year will surely leave the fashion world hearing (and seeing) a whole lot more of the perplexingly named hue. In fact, Marsala is poised to become one of the hottest and most in-demand colours of the New Year.

So what does a new must-have shade and Pantone's stamp of approval mean for you and your wardrobe? For one, it means switching up your black basics for something a little richer and slightly spicier.

But fashionable friends, there's no need to sweat. Metro has you covered — and stylishly so.

You'll see plenty of this bold and spicy brown-red on shelves, and in windows, as early as later this month. It never takes long for retailers to start featuring the New Year's official colour, especially with the holidays so near. From kitchenware and home decor to fashion and beauty — you'll have nothing but choice when it comes to what may very well be your new signature shade.

For ladies who crave a pop of colour but appreciate subtlety, Marsala will be your new best friend. The shade complements fair complexions and richens deep ones, making it a colour worthy of both your wardrobe and makeup bag.

Do you dare to go full Marsala this coming New Year? GETTY IMAGES

According to professional image consultant Christie Ressel, Kylie Jenner has been a huge fan over the last few months, regularly donning overdrawn lipstick in muted red-brown. The Jenner sister's regular Instagram updates and paparazzi snaps have only added to the colour's popularity in the beauty world.

Ressel also shares that Marsala is "muted" and "has a refined quality", making it pop in accessories and stand-out in separates.

"For a neutral look, consider pairing the shade with other warm-toned colours such as deep brown, beige or pea green," says Ressel. For more of a statement look, she advises opting for lilac, dusty rose or sky blue.

While its name may be new to the world of fashion, the colour itself has been seen on fall and winter runways for years.

Like black, Marsala can easily be used as a wardrobe staple in "wine-coloured boots, leather bags and leather coats", according to sought-after fashion stylist Talia Brown. She describes the shade as being, "very much in the brown family" and praises its ability to be both stark and subtle.

Brown recommends that men incorporate Marsala into their wardrobes in the forms of ties, scarves, and belts or even printed dress socks.

Challenge yourself to step away from the black, put down the grey and reach for Marsala in 2015. You'll be perfectly on-trend while investing in classic pieces that are set to withstand the test of time. It's not often a single shade accomplishes both, so be on the lookout for Pantone's colour of the year at your favourite stores next month.

Hue oughta know

- Fashion stylist Talia Brown cautions that while monochromatic Marsala may work in an evening gown, it can be a bit much for someone to pull off.
- She adds that Marsala may be a no-no when matched with fully saturated brights, such as cherry red or highlighter orange.

Making the best of the bold

"For a neutral look, consider pairing the shade with other warm-toned colours such as deep brown, beige or pea green."

Christie Ressel
Professional image consultant

4 must-haves in Marsala

Dooney & Bourke Bitsy Crossbody Bag

$158.40, thebay.com

TOPSHOP Bodycon Midi Dress

$40, thebay.com

Ocaria Heel

$24.99, aldoshoes.com

NARS Eye Shadow Single in New York

$28, murale.ca

Surprise Santa with something a bit more original

This recipe makes 30 chocolates. TARA FISHER

Cookbook of the Week

Gifts from your heart (and kitchen)

The next time you're giving a gift, skip the mass-produced items that have become the norm and crack open Handmade Gifts from the Kitchen by Alison Walker.

The book offers more than 100 gift ideas with easy-to-follow recipes and ideas of presentation — including decorative jars, tins, baskets and boxes to add a personal touch that ensures your gift will be remembered long after it's been eaten.

Recipes include Earl Grey Hearts, Popcorn Bark, Peanut Brittle, Bourbon Peaches, Tiffin, Lemon Syrup Loaf Cakes and Sesame Snaps. METRO

White Chocolate and Rosemary Truffles. The guy in the red suit will appreciate these sweet little bites a lot more than boring cookies

"These rich and interesting truffles offer a delicate balance of white chocolate with aromatic rosemary. I find that the rosemary tempers the sweetness of the white chocolate so it doesn't end up too sickly. See what you think," writes Alison Walker in Handmade Gifts from the Kitchen.

1. Put the cream and rosemary in a small pan and bring to a boil — this is important, otherwise the ganache won't thicken when beaten. Put the chocolate into a heatproof bowl. Pour over the cream and rosemary and stir once or twice.

2. Set the bowl over a pan of very gently simmering water, add the corn syrup and butter. Let melt, stirring once or twice to combine. Set aside until cooled to room temperature.

3. Discard the rosemary. When cool, beat the mixture with an electric mixer until soft, fluffy, and paler in colour. Pour into a lightly oiled disposable foil container (7 inches x 5 inches) and put into the refrigerator to set.

4. Lay out a large piece of parchment paper on your counter and dust liberally with confectioners' sugar.

5. Retrieve the foil container from the refrigerator and snip its edges so that you can carefully peel them away. Turn out the truffle block onto a board. Cut into 1 1/4-inch cubes (you'll need to clean the knife with paper towels every few cuts) and transfer the truffles to the parchment paper as you go.

6. Dust the truffle cubes with more confectioners' sugar and roll, pressing gently, to cover them completely.

7. Transfer the truffles to petit-four paper cups and arrange in lidded boxes. Store in the refrigerator, where they can last for up to two weeks.

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Ingredients

- Scant 1/2 cup heavy cream
- A large sprig rosemary
- 7 oz white chocolate, broken into pieces
- 1 tbsp corn syrup
- 2 tbsp unsalted butter
- Sunflower oil, for greasing
- Confectioners' sugar, for dusting

This recipe makes two cups. TARA FISHER

Snack. Smoky Nuts

"These nuts look fantastic packaged simply in cellophane with ribbon or tape or in a compartmentalized box.

"If you or a friend likes their nuts spicier, then simply add in a couple of pinches of chile powder with the paprika," writes Alison Walker in Handmade Gifts from the Kitchen.

These nuts keep for up to two weeks in an airtight container or sealed plastic bag.

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. Toss the nuts together or each type separately in the oil, depending on how you want to package them. Roast in a preheated oven for 5 to 10 minutes until golden.

3. Remove from the oven, then immediately toss in the salt and paprika, and let cool.

Ingredients

- 2 cups mixed nuts, such as cashews, blanched almonds, macadamias, and brazil nuts
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 1 tsp smoked paprika

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From Nutella muffins to leek fondue, the Youmiam community produces recipes both inventive and strange.

Thankfully, sophisticated search tools and step-by-step guides make it easy to find the hidden gems.

Calvin Klein succulent florals

Calvin Klein installed a pop-up floral shop inside their Madison Avenue flagship with artist Lauren Messelian, where the public can browse and buy her conceptual floristry. The pieces Messelian's made for Calvin Klein Collection are described as "portable living sculptures, uniting art and design" and they feature succulent greens and stones captured in angular glass. The curated floristry will be available through Dec. 24. CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION/AFP

Design. For tipsy guests, try spill-proof wine glasses

Red wine stains are the perpetual fear of any homeowner, so it's just as well that Superduperstudio has come up with a new glass design that makes it practically impossible to spill your vino.

The Saturn Glass is a stemless glass that rests on an indent when placed on a flat surface, meaning the wine is held in a bowl-shaped vessel at the bottom of the receptacle. The design has been optimized to prevent messy spills and stains as much as possible.

Fabricated using traditional Italian glass-blowing techniques, each vessel is made using molten glass shaped by hand before being blown into a mould, and then annealed overnight, cut, and hand polished.

Two sizes are available — for red and white wine — and the glasses are stackable.

Saturn Glasses are the brainchild of San Francisco-based startup Superduperstudio. Launched following four years of research and development, the finished range is a remix of Italian and Scandinavian glass-making traditions.

Saturn Glasses can be purchased on back order for $52 each on superduperstudio.net. AFP

Saturn spill-proof wine glasses. SUPERDUPERSTUDIO

Appliances. Smarter way to stay warm this winter

Tech accessory maker Belkin and Jarden Consumer Solutions have joined forces to create an air purifier and room heaters that can be controlled and programmed remotely via a smartphone or tablet.

Belkin's WeMo platform is a very simple and very effective way of linking a growing number of devices and appliances to the internet via Wi-Fi and endowing them with app-based controls.

Of the latest editions to the platform, the Holmes Smart Air Purifier with WeMo works like any other HEPA air purifier — it can ionize air and reduce odours. However, with the help of a smartphone, users can program when it comes on and when it shuts down, creating daily and weekly schedules and altering things such as the fan and ionizer settings. The air purifier will also push notifications to the app about filter life and prompt a user when it needs to be changed.

Likewise the Holmes Smart Heaters — 1000-watt and 1500-watt — enabled with WeMo, can be programmed with weekly or daily schedules and be turned off or back on again remotely via the app, anywhere in the world, as long as the user's smartphone or tablet has an Internet connection. This not only makes the heaters more energy efficient — there's no need to leave them on all day or all night — owners will never experience that panic that sets in when they think they've left the house with the heaters still running. AFP

Smart appliances

The Holmes Smart Air Purifier, right, is on sale now in the U.S. priced at $199.99 and the 1000-watt heater, below, will cost $149.99 (add a further $50 to the ticket for the 1500-watt version).

• The WeMo app, which also works with all existing WeMo-enabled devices and appliances, is free to download for Android and iOS devices from Google Play and the App Store, respectively.

PHOTOS: BUSINESS WIRE

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Designing the perfect Christmas tree

Got a great-looking place? Then you need a chic Christmas tree to stand out in style during the holidays. Whether you've chosen a real or artificial tree, decorate it using a few of these alternative design solutions

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

ALL PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

A theme come true

Coming up with a styled theme can be most difficult as each year holiday trends change, requiring new ornaments. Invest in a colour you have always liked. Gold, red or silver are classic winners for holiday tree ornaments. Seventy per cent of your ornaments should include this colour. The remaining 30 per cent can incorporate a current trend and be changed up every two-to-three years. This year, look for turquoise, rust and black as trend options. Any one of them can be worked in with your main colour with ease.

Ornament to be

Hanging larger ornaments close to the bottom and smaller one close to the top always works for good proportions. Many glass-looking ornaments are unbreakable. Look for these, especially for the larger ornaments near the bottom of the tree. Pick a sweet theme that will leave you calorie-free. **Macaroon Ornament Set, $14, UrbanOutfitter.com**

More than one way to skirt a tree

Always finish your tree with a skirt to hide the stand and any light cords — leaving it bare is a big decorator no-no. The skirt should help complete your tree's decor theme. For instance, if your accent or trend colour is turquoise, then that's the colour to use for your skirt. Consider using plaid blankets, fur throws or even a holiday printed tablecloth at the bottom of the tree. Tree collars are a new way to hide the under-tree chaos. **Galvanized and Wicker Tree collars, $80, CrateAndBarrel.com**

In a good light

New LED string lights are longer-lasting and energy efficient. Look for warm white lights (not the cool blue-ish ones) to create a flattering glow of light. Purchase 80 to 100 lights per each foot of the tree's height. Combine new technology with some retro appeal and you've got lighting that will last year to year. **Lord & Taylor 25 Indoor LED Pearl Warm White Lights, $25, TheBay.com**

Take it from the top

The most-forgotten element of the tree always seems to be the topper. No longer does the topper need to be in the form of a star or an angel. Consider decorative resin antlers, everlasting flowers, straw-crafted birds (owls are still big this year), birdhouses or large ribbon bows in lieu of the traditional tree-topper. **Pinecone and glitter peace sign tree topper, $100, PotteryBarn.com**

Christmas morning table

For many, the holidays can be a time for starting new traditions. And if there's one tradition style gurus Steven and Chris never miss out on, it's Christmas morning brunch! Who doesn't love waking up Christmas morning to discover an exciting dining table decked with holiday cheer? Here are some tips from the guys on how to set a table that'll get everyone talking. Steven and Chris airs Monday to Friday at 2 p.m. EST on CBC Television.

TEXT BY MICHAEL PIHACH. PHOTOS BY ALEXIS GLINERT.

Santa's been here!

Need proof that Santa's sleigh swooped by? Simply use a large boot as a stencil and sprinkle powdered sugar or fake snow around it so that it creates a footprint. Lead some prints directly from the front door or fireplace directly to your morning table. Watch: your Kids will freak!

Holiday robes for everyone

There's nothing better than spending Christmas morning lounging around in a warm robe. Buy a holiday robe for all the members of your family and attach to their chairs at the table. Add everybody's names to a tag as an indicator as to who sits where. Consider it everybody's "first gift of the day," plus it'll start the day off on a cozy note!

Who wants to be a millionaire?

Place a lottery scratch ticket along with a mini liqueur and chocolates into a tiny box and place one at each person's seat. Decorate the box with ribbon and top it off with a party cracker. Everyone can scratch their tickets and talk about what they'd do if they won a million dollars. (Hey, it could happen!)

Unleash your inner cookie monster

Holidays are a time to indulge for both kids and grown-ups. Give your table a sweet focal point by making a cookie tree forest centrepiece. Buy store-bought cookie dough (or make your own) and mold a set of cookies into mini Christmas trees. Insert popsicle sticks into the base of the tree and then bake. Paint the baked cookies with green icing; let dry. Get a trough or container and insert a foam block wrapped in a sheet of moss or fake snow. Stick the tree cookies into the foam and presto! You'll have a cookie forest that'll last all day.

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Under head coach Bob Hartley, the Flames are 17-14-2 this season. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Hartley rewarded with an extension

Flames. GM Treliving has 'been nothing but impressed' with head coach since April

Calgary Flames coach Bob Hartley's contract extension signals that he and new general manager Brad Treliving have decided they can work together.

The multi-year extension announced in Hartley's third season in Calgary could make him one of the longest-serving head coaches in Flames history. Bob Johnson was behind Calgary's bench for five seasons from 1982-83 to 1986-87.

Hartley was not Treliving's hire, but that of former general manager Jay Feaster who was fired Dec. 12, 2012.

Calgary's president of hockey operations Brian Burke served as interim GM until appointing Treliving his replacement in April.

"I look at it at a bit like a marriage," Treliving told reporters Wednesday at Scotiabank Saddledome. "You go through a dating period and you're just trying to find out about one another and how things are done and sort of the DNA of the person and how they work and operate.

"I've been nothing but impressed with Bob, his work ethic, his energy level, the time he puts in to get this team to the place we all want to get it to. There's a consistency to him that I admire."

Quoted

"We know that we're moving in the right direction."

Flames head coach Bob Hartley

Calgary hasn't made the playoffs in five seasons. Hartley guided the NHL club to a 17-14-2 start this season and a 71-79-13 record since he was named the team's coach May 31, 2012.

His first season as Calgary's coach was abbreviated because of the NHL lockout in 2012-13.

The Flames flirted with the Pacific Division lead in November, but their current six-game losing streak knocked them down the Western Conference standings to sit tied for eighth at 36 points.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anderson earns shutout

Sens keep Devils off scoreboard

Craig Anderson made 34 saves, and Kyle Turris scored two goals as the Ottawa Senators beat the New Jersey Devils 2-0 on Wednesday night.

Anderson earned his third shutout of the season and 29th in his NHL career. He had struggled recently, going 2-6-2 in his previous 10 starts. New Senators coach Dave Cameron improved to 2-1-1 since he replaced the fired Paul MacLean.

The Devils, whose losing streak was extended to five games, went 0-for-5 on the power play — stymied by Anderson throughout.

Ottawa will return home to host Anaheim on Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Predators

League fines Neal for diving

The NHL fined Nashville Predators forward James Neal $2,000 US for diving on Wednesday, making him the first player to be fined under a new league initiative to crack down on embellishment.

Neal was assessed a two-minute minor penalty for embellishment at 19:39 of the third period of Nashville's 2-0 loss in San Jose on Saturday.

It was Neal's second citation for embellishment this season, which triggered the automatic fine.

Under the new rules, a player's coach also gets fined upon his fourth offence and subsequent infractions. The fines for coaches begin at $2,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crosby practising again after the mumps

Sidney Crosby, who has been sidelined with a case of the mumps, returned to practice on Wednesday. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby returned from a bout with mumps, while several teammates were tested for the virus as a precaution.

Crosby worked out Wednesday for the first time after missing three games over the weekend. He could return to the lineup as early as Thursday night when the Penguins face Colorado.

General manager Jim Rutherford said Crosby is "doing well," and he'll let Crosby and coach Mike Johnston decide the timetable for a possible return.

Without Sid

In Crosby's absence, the Penguins won two of three games. Their lone loss came in a shootout against the Blue Jackets.

The Penguins held goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury and defencemen Olli Maatta and Robert Bortuzzo out of practice Wednesday while they get tested for mumps. All three players tested negative for mumps earlier in December.

"We're being cautious," Rutherford said. "All three of those players are in isolation. Any time that anybody even starts to not feel well, even if it's not mumps-like symptoms, we've gotten the person or player out of here as soon as we can."

At least five NHL teams have been affected by the virus, which is spread through infected saliva and causes facial swelling and fatigue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GM Brad Treliving shouldn't be fooled into thinking the Flames are a playoff contender after the team's torrid start to the season. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

No rash moves good for rebuild

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Brian Costello
calgary@metronews.ca

Even though Brad Treliving is in his first year as an NHL GM, I don't fear for a second that he's going to make a rookie mistake with the Calgary Flames mired in a six-game losing streak.

Maybe that's because everything Treliving has said up until now about Calgary's rebuild is that he's going to stay the course and not make rash decisions.

In all his interviews, Treliving comes across as patient, composed, thoughtful and with a long-term goal that he won't waiver from.

Treliving showed nice patience not signing Bob Hartley during the team's torrid stretch, lest it look knee-jerk. Signing him now during the cold snap looks like a vote of confidence for a coach he wanted to re-up all along.

I don't wake up in the middle of the night dreaming he just traded Calgary's first round pick in the 2015 draft to Arizona for Shane Doan. And I don't get day sweats that he's going to trade Sven Baertschi and a second-rounder to Buffalo for Josh Gorges.

A more impulsive GM might be considering those options now.

Just a couple of weeks ago, everything looked rosy for the Flames. One-third of the way through the season, they were well on pace to silencing the critics and securing a playoff spot in the West.

Better go get some veteran leadership. Better pick up an experienced defenceman. Better become more black and blue.

I don't need to tell Treliving this, but the best thing he can do is continue to evaluate the league, keep the avenues of conversation open between he and the other 29 GMs, and maintain the levels of development necessary in this rebuild.

Perhaps that was the best thing about Calgary getting a first-year GM. No one expects him to work miracles for at least the first couple of years.

Who knows? Had the team hired an experienced (and recycled) GM, he might have been apt to swing for the fences when his team hit a road bump after such a blistering start.

Most of us knew this regression we're seeing was inevitable. Maybe not so dramatic, but we knew the losses would come. If the playoffs started today, the Flames would not make it. And it's highly probable Calgary's slide to ninth in the West will eventually turn into 11th or 12th place by April.

That's not being pessimistic, it's being realistic.

And if that comes to pass, Flames fans can be grateful any discussion Treliving has with other GMs will be about offloading pending UFAs and dead weight rather than bringing them in.

Quoted

"No one expects (Treliving) to work miracles for at least the first couple of years."

Analytic stats (33 games):

PDO is the total of a team's shooting percentage and save percentage and, with time, tracks closer to 100. Calgary's PDO was among the top three in the league for the first quarter of the season (in and around the 103.0 mark), suggested the Flames were due for a correction. The six-game losing streak has put Calgary closer to middle of the pack.

1. Nasvhille: 102.7
2. Pittsburgh: 102.5
9. Calgary: 100.6
29. Edmonton: 96.9
30. Carolina: 96.3

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HWY: 7.4L/100 KM CITY: 10.4L/100 KM

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Raps seize chance to get back at Nets

NBA. Toronto gets a small measure of redemption for last season's playoff loss

Kyle Lowry had 20 points and 12 assists as the Raptors beat the Brooklyn Nets 105-89 on Wednesday night — a bit of payback against the team that ousted Toronto from last season's playoffs.

Jonas Valanciunas added 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Raptors (20-6), who won their fourth straight game. Amir Johnson, Patrick Patterson and Greivis Vasquez finished with 13 points apiece.

Mason Plumlee had 23 points to top the Nets (10-14), while Joe Johnson added 17.

The game marked the first meeting between the two teams since the Nets dispatched the Raptors in seven games in the opening round of the playoffs — a spirited series that saw Raptors GM Masai Ujiri drop an F-bomb, and drew thousands of fans to Maple Leaf Square each game.

The Raptors entered the night with a half-game lead over idle Washington atop the Eastern Conference, and a full eight games ahead of the Nets in the race for the Atlantic Division title.

But the two teams paced each other for most of the night in a game that saw 11 lead changes through the first three quarters. The Raptors took a 76-73 advantage into the fourth.

But the Raptors have become known for their strong fourth quarters, especially at home, and Wednesday was no different. When Patterson drained a three-pointer with 4:35 to play, it put the Raptors up by 14 and brought the fans out of their seats.

The Raptors owned the Nets in the final few minutes. Joe Johnson went to the free-throw line on the Nets' next possession and went 0-for-3, as chants of "Brooklyn sucks!" rolled around the arena. And by the time Vasquez scored on a three with a minute to play, it gave the Raptors an 18-point lead.

Much to the fans' delight, rookie Bruno Caboclo made an appearance for the final few seconds, prompting chants of "Let's go, Bruno!"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Wednesday

Raptors	Nets
105	89

- The game marked the second annual "Drake Night." Drake said he chose the Nets for his night because of the obvious rivalry.
- "If there's anybody that I want to beat, it's the Nets," Drake said. "Obviously, I've got much love for New York and Brooklyn but in this particular arena at this particular moment, the one thing I want to do is knock out Brooklyn."

Raptors forward James Johnson defends a shot by the Nets' Mason Plumlee at the Air Canada Centre on Wednesday night. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Michael Garcia at a FIFA ethics committee press conference in Zurich, Switzerland in July 2012. WALTER BIERI/ASSOCIATED PRESS/KEYSTONE FILE

Furious at FIFA: Garcia resigns

The American lawyer who led the investigation into the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bid process resigned from the FIFA ethics committee on Wednesday in protest over the handling of his findings.

Michael Garcia cited a "lack of leadership" at the top of FIFA in a resignation statement. He also said he has lost confidence in the independence of his ethics committee colleague, German judge Joachim Eckert.

Though Garcia did not identify Sepp Blatter by name, he also revealed that the FIFA executive committee — led by the longtime president — made a failed complaint of unethical conduct against the former U.S. Attorney in September.

Speaking at the Club World Cup in Marrakech, Morocco, Blatter told The Associated Press he was stunned by Garcia's decision to resign.

Garcia quit a day after the FIFA appeals panel rejected his challenge of Eckert's summary of the confidential 430-page investigation dossier. Last month, Eckert moved to close the case on the World Cup bidding contest because of lack of evidence.

Russia won the right to host the 2018 World Cup and Qatar was awarded the 2022 tournament. After Eckert's summary was made public, Garcia claimed that the German judge had misrepresented his work and then launched his failed appeal.

"(My) report identified serious and wide-ranging issues with the bidding and (World Cup host) selection process," Garcia wrote Wednesday, adding that Eckert's decision "made me lose confidence in the independence of the Adjudicatory Chamber, (but) it is the lack of leadership on these issues within FIFA that leads me to conclude that my role in this process is at an end."

In his resignation statement, Garcia also questioned how FIFA can truly change after years of scandals and criticism.

"No independent governance committee, investigator, or arbitration panel can change the culture of an organization," Garcia wrote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Suns snap skid in Charlotte

Reserve Isaiah Thomas scored 23 points, Goran Dragic had 20 and the Phoenix Suns snapped a six-game losing streak with a 111-106 victory over the struggling Charlotte Hornets on Wednesday night in Charlotte, N.C. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Hawks' Mack attacks Cavaliers

Shelvin Mack scored a career-high 24 points and the Atlanta Hawks routed the Cleveland Cavaliers 127-98 Wednesday night for their 11th victory in 12 games. The reservce Mack made all six of his three-pointers on the night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Rays send ROY Myers packing

The San Diego Padres acquired outfielder Wil Myers from the Tampa Bay Rays on Wednesday, a person with knowledge of the deal said.

Myers was the AL Rookie of the Year in 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

League Cup

Liverpool sets up semi with Chelsea

Liverpool will play Chelsea in the League Cup semifinals after Raheem Sterling scored twice in a 3-1 victory over second-tier Bournemouth on Wednesday night, and Tottenham advanced with a 4-0 rout of Newcastle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liverpool's Raheem Sterling scores the first of his two goals on Wednesday in Bournemouth, England. BRYN LENNON/GETTY IMAGES

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may be in a charitable mood but don't give away too much. Your luck is changing for the better but you still need to make sure you have enough to cover unforeseen setbacks.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
What happens over the next few days may be unsettling but the planets promise you will do very well thanks to the changes that take place.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
This is a time of major changes for you that will accelerate when the Sun moves into Capricorn at the weekend, so get plenty of rest. You'll need it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There is no point starting a fight you know you cannot win. For some strange reason you feel you must prove yourself to the world, but that isn't true. Besides, what does it prove if you end up flat on your back?

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Let matters develop at their own pace today, especially on the work front where things are moving so fast that there is no point in trying to change them.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Someone may try to persuade you that a course of action is in your interests but you have doubts. Listen to your instincts and act on what they tell you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There may be exciting things going on in your social environment but you must ignore them all and focus on getting a family matter sorted.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone you work with will disagree with your plans today but there is no way you are going to change them. Tell them you understand their concerns then carry on exactly the same as before.

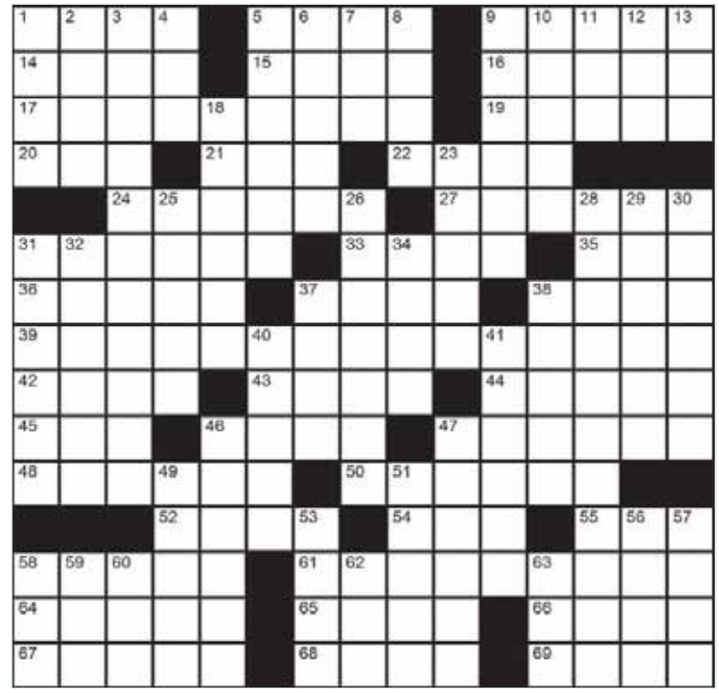
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Do you give a colleague your support and risk falling out with someone in authority? Or do you side with the powers that be and risk losing a friend? Only you can decide but it's got to be one or the other.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The new moon on the 22nd will do wonders for your courage. Between now and then, keep a low profile and save energy.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Focus on something creative you can do alone. You may be sociable but sometimes you need to be alone to get the best from your abilities.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You won't find it hard to persuade partners and colleagues to follow your lead today but don't use force. If you do, they will drag their feet.

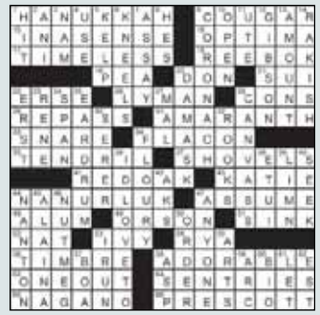
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Dutch artist, Rembrandt van __
5. __ Buy (Electronics store)
9. 1885: Canada's first national park
14. KT Tunstall's "Suddenly _ __"
15. Mixture
16. Ring-shaped coral island with a lagoon in the middle
17. Vancouver Island: __ Goose Regional Trail
19. Mr. Bear
20. Li'l ocean
21. Reckon
22. __ _ few moments (Rested briefly)
24. Admiration
27. Nearly
31. Escalate: 2 wds.
33. Superior at a French monastery
35. Phantom's scare!
36. Haven
37. "No __!" (It was no big deal!)
38. "Heat of the Moment" band
39. Wristbands that monitor things like steps taken and calories burned: 2 wds.
42. Ice mass
43. Infliction
44. Quebec stop sign word
45. 'Restrict' suffix
46. __ '_' Hers
47. Removes any doubt
48. Alex __, Canadian host of "Jeopardy!"
50. Moviedom's Ms. Miller
52. Guitar bar
54. Glaswegian's 'No'
55. Even if, briefly
58. Stringed instrument
61. Song by Canadian band Streetheart that goes "How'd you get the car, those diamonds and pearls..."
64. Bird-related
65. Sailing direction
66. Highlands tongue
67. Actress Naomi
68. Taken back [abbr.]
69. Hairstyling hues

Down
1. Capital of Latvia
2. Time __ __ a premium
3. "Money (Part 1)" Canadian Hip-Hop artist
4. First word in Inferno by Dante
5. Storied shepherdess, with Little: 2 wds.
6. Upper crust
7. Canuck ID
8. Clothes
9. __ Harbour (Labrador community)
10. "The _ __" by Ed Sheeran
11. Fall asleep, __ off
12. Do dry-clothes-taken-from-the-dryer work, briefly
13. Be an Air Canada passenger
18. Dense
23. Limerick's rhyming pattern
25. Back
26. Hamilton-born comedian Mr. Short's
28. Scientific lookout station
29. Nighttime get together
30. Wedding reception speeches
31. Roof's overhang underside
32. Bespoke clothing professional
34. "A Star Is __" (1976)
37. Community commercials, curtly
38. Ohio city
40. Railway track fastener
41. Art of "The Honeymooners"
46. Wading birds
47. Rang loudly
49. A Sharp sometimes, _ __
51. Cove
53. "__ she blows!"
56. Outdoor tap hookup
57. Poetic pieces
58. Canuck priv. sectr union
59. Ms. Longoria
60. English __.
62. Toreador's taunt
63. Pre-Thurs. day

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

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Yesterday's Sudoku

7	6	1	2	3	4	8	5	9
8	2	4	6	9	5	1	7	3
3	9	5	8	1	7	4	6	2
1	5	3	7	2	6	9	8	4
6	8	9	5	4	3	7	2	1
4	7	2	9	8	1	6	3	5
2	4	8	3	7	9	5	1	6
9	3	6	1	5	8	2	4	7
5	1	7	4	6	2	3	9	8

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$18,987

2013 Hyundai Elantra Ltd. B6077
40,505 km • 6-Sp. Auto • Bluetooth • Cruise
$20,810

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109,978 km • Bluetooth • Leather • Sunroof
$23,399

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2010 Volvo XC90 V8 Exec B5986
111,300 km • Leather • 12 Spkr. Stereo • DVD
$28,494

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